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CITY OF ABERDEEN

REPORT

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SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Years 1916-1921 (inclusive)



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REPORT

BY

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For the Years 1916-1921 (inclusive).



CONTENTS

	PAGE
Introductory,	6
Complaints,	7
Drainage,	8
Housing,	10
Overcrowding,	10
Structural Defects and Want of Repair,	12
Verminous Houses	13
Filthy Houses, W.C.'s, &c.,	15
Whitewashing, &c., of Lobbies, Staircases, &c.,	15
Increase of Rent, Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920,	17
Smoke Abatement,	18
Offensive Trades,	19
Pig-styes,	21
Workshops,	22
Bake-houses,	23
Common Lodging-houses and Houses Let-in-Lodgings,	25
Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milk-shops,	25
Shops where Food Stuffs are Sold,	26
Places of Public Refreshment,	27
Meat Inspection,	28
The Sale of Food and Drugs Acts,	31
Ray Flock Act, 1911,	47
Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908,	49
Shops Act, 1912, and the Shops (Early Closing) Acts, 1920 and 1921,	50
Extermination of Rats,	53
Sanitary Conditions of Theatres, Music Halls, and Cinemas,	55
Port Sanitary Inspection,	56
Infectious Disease,	57
Interment of Unclaimed Bodies,	57
Prosecutions,	58
Statement of Proceedings under Pubic Health and other Acts (Appendix),	61

SANITARY DEPARTMENT,
CROWN MANSIONS, 41½, UNION STREET,
ABERDEEN, 31st July, 1923.

To
The Scottish Board of Health,
AND
The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and
Town Council of the City of Aberdeen.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the following report of the work done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the years 1916-21.

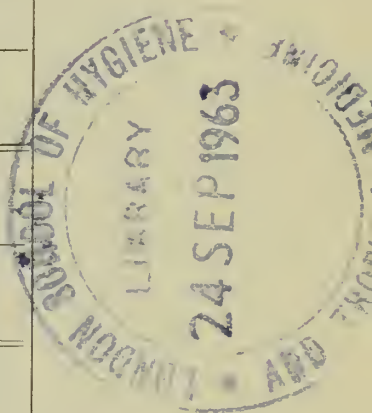
During practically the whole of the war period, all the male assistants of military age were, with one exception, serving in the Army. Their places were temporarily filled by men who had been rejected for military duty. During that time, special instructions were issued to the staff with reference to the necessity for increased vigilance as regards want of cleanliness; and periodic inspections were made of all places in the poorer parts of the City with the view of securing that no filth should be allowed to accumulate in the cellars, back courts, passages, and curtilages of such premises. Structural repairs, unless pronounced, were not insisted upon.

The serving members of the staff were all demobilised, and returned to duty in the course of 1919.

COMPLAINTS.

Undernoted is a tabular statement regarding the number of complaints received, all of which were attended to:—

	1916.		1917.		1918.		1919.		1920.		1921.	
	Complaints Received.	No Action Necessary.	Complaints Received.	No Action Necessary.	Complaints Received.	No Action Necessary.	Complaints Received.	No Action Necessary.	Complaints Received.	No Action Necessary.	Complaints Received.	No Action Necessary.
(a) Choked or defective Drains and Sanitary Conveniences, . .	248	23	250	16	437	13	501	23	465	20	751	107
(b) Dampness, . . .	33	4	27	1	17	1	13	3	84	5	42	16
(c) Want of Cleanliness, .	190	60	147	30	171	31	175	20	208	18	266	137
(d) Overcrowding, . .	165	105	176	117	136	69	144	56	119	41	171	62
(e) Dwellings infested with Vermin, . . .	16	1	19	5	19	3	51	6	74	9	206	37
(f) Nuisance caused by keeping of Domestic Animals, .	37	18	34	7	33	11	48	15	52	9	107	38
(g) Offensive Smells, . .	43	22	35	7	44	10	50	13	90	22	183	86
(h) Accumulations of Refuse, .	73	5	78	5	85	2	105	8	75	1	149	30
(i) Structural Repairs, . .	66	3	115	1	131	0	131	1	339	5	914	16
(j) Other,	36	16	34	7	32	5	35	11	85	23	111	47
Totals,	907	257	915	196	1,105	145	1,253	156	1,591	153	2,900	576



DRAINAGE.

The drains of the great majority of the older houses in the City had all been renewed within the last thirty or forty years. The result was that, a few years prior to the war, the Department resolved that there was no longer any necessity for testing the drains of houses where the system was modern and apparently in good working condition, except where there was a special reason for doing so. All defects in their working, however, such as chokage or obvious leakage, were immediately dealt with.

In 1918, there was an outbreak of typhoid fever in the City, and the drains of each house in which a case occurred were tested. It is gratifying to be able to report that no difficulty was experienced in getting the defects made good, and, where necessary, a new drainage system introduced.

Undernoted are particulars regarding the number of houses in which the drains and sanitary fittings were tested:—

						No. of drainage systems tested.	No. where drains were repaired or renewed.
1916	.	.	.	.	.	40	... 33
1917	.	.	.	.	.	25	... 18
1918	.	.	.	.	.	101	... 76
1919	.	.	.	.	.	31	... 46
1920	.	.	.	.	.	49	... 41
1921	.	.	.	.	.	38	... 32
						<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	.	.	.	.	.	284	... 246
						<hr/>	<hr/>

Eight prosecutions were instituted against house proprietors for failing within a reasonable time to clear out choked drains, and a conviction was obtained in each case.

A considerable amount of expense has to be borne by house proprietors on account of the tenants wilfully interfering with, or improperly using, drains, w.c.'s, &c. For several years it has been the practice of the Department to send a letter to the tenants of all properties where chokages of drains or w.c.'s have recurred within a short period, pointing out to them the penalty imposed by Section 30 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act for such improper usages. Two tenants were prosecuted for a contravention of this section—one being admonished and the other fined ten shillings.

In the accompanying table, the amount of work done in each of the years 1919, 1920, and 1921 is shown.

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Defective drains made good	46	41	32
Drains properly ventilated	6	3	2
Additional water-closets fitted up	4	10	13
Water-closets fitted up in lieu of privies	4	2	1
Defective water-closets replaced	7	19	18
Defective water-closets repaired	16	88	217
Soilpipes of water-closets renewed or repaired	17	24	36
Ventilation pipes renewed or repaired	6	16	22
Water-closet cisterns repaired	239	176	217
Overflow pipes from cisterns repaired	32	11	4
Pulls for cisterns provided	20	8	33
Defective flushpipes repaired	231	123	127
Trap of water-closet ventilated	1	0	0
Basins of water-closets replaced or repaired	30	31	62
Additional water supply provided for water-closets	119	14	5
Additional sinks provided	0	2	3
Additional water supply provided for sinks	17	0	0
Additional water supply provided for wash-house	1	0	0
Defective sinks replaced or repaired	8	7	24
Defective wash-hand basins replaced or repaired	0	4	2
Water supply pipes repaired	43	48	65
Water taps repaired	17	2	8
Additional water tap provided	1	0	0
New water supply provided from main	0	0	1
Defective baths replaced	0	3	2
Waste or rainwater pipes replaced or repaired	110	124	152
Lead traps provided for wastepipes	1	0	2
Additional grid traps provided	1	6	4
Defective grid traps replaced	3	7	15
New gratings provided for grid traps	23	30	45
New gratings provided for fresh-air inlets	1	3	5
Traps or fresh-air inlets uncovered	1	3	11
Additional eaves gutters fitted up	1	1	1
Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	42	41	58
Defective inspection chamber covers renewed	25	22	54
Choked drains and pipes cleared out	2256	1355	1456
Choked water-closets cleared out	241	179	147

HOUSING.

In Aberdeen, as in the majority of other towns, there is a great shortage of houses.

In the Housing Scheme approved of by the Town Council on 17th November, 1919, the approximate number of houses required was stated as follows:—

(1) To relieve overcrowding	300
(2) To replace houses at present occupied which should be closed and demolished	1,000
(3) To re-house persons who will be dispossessed by Improvement or Reconstruction Schemes under Parts I. and II. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890	200
(4) To meet the normal growth of population	2,000
(5) To meet demands consequent on the setting up of new industries	500
Total	<hr/> 4,000 <hr/>

One site was procured at Torry, and plans for the erection thereon of 500 houses were approved.

Up to the time of writing this report, only 156 of these houses have been erected, and all are now occupied. The plans of 86 additional houses have been provisionally approved of by the Board of Health. It will be seen, therefore, that the total number of houses which will be provided in Aberdeen under the Scheme is 242.

The waiting list for the Torry houses contains over 200 names.

In June, 1919, the Town Council decided to convert into dwelling-houses for temporary use part of King Street Barracks, which had been acquired by the Tramways department for the erection of workshops, &c. The accommodation thus provided is as follows:—18 one-roomed houses, 26 two-roomed, and 2 three-roomed houses. All these houses have been in continuous occupation since that time.

As an indication of the great shortage of houses, it may be stated that the Town Council's House Factor has a list of about 250 names.

Seven properties, embracing 38 dwellings, which had been voluntarily closed by the owners, have been reconditioned. A number of small shops—about 100—have been converted into dwelling-houses.

Houses which have been Closed or Demolished.

Since July, 1914, only seven properties, embracing 17 dwellings, have been officially closed as being unfit for human habitation. At least 150 dwellings have, however, been demolished since that time in connection with the erection of new buildings.

Overcrowding.

The following table gives particulars as to the number of houses measured, and the number found overcrowded:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	TOTALS.
Houses measured,	1,640	1,406	711	609	709	742	5,817
Number found overcrowded, .	90	106	99	58	130	167	650
Number where overcrowding was abated,	89	98	82	42	66	78	455
Number where excess was not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ adult, .	22	32	18	12	16	27	127
Do. do. 1 ,, .	27	41	50	18	53	54	243
Do. do. $1\frac{1}{2}$ adults, .	22	17	15	14	26	36	130
Do. do. 2 ,, .	14	11	10	9	17	17	78
Do. do. $2\frac{1}{2}$,, .	3	3	3	3	7	15	34
Do. do. 3 ,, .	0	2	1	2	5	5	15
Do. do. $3\frac{1}{2}$,, .	0	0	1	0	4	7	12
Do. do. 4 ,, .	2	0	0	0	1	3	6
Do. do. $4\frac{1}{2}$,, .	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Do. do. 5 ,, .	0	0	0	0	0	2	2

From the above table it would appear as if overcrowding, based on a standard of 400 cubic feet per adult and 200 for each child under ten years, is not very rife in Aberdeen, as in no fewer than 370 out of the 650 cases dealt with during the period 1916-21, the excess was not more than one adult. It will be observed, however, that in recent years, as is to be expected, so long as the shortage of houses continues, the number of houses where the excess has been greater than two adults has greatly increased. For example, the number of such houses in 1920 and 1921 was, respectively, 18 and 33, as compared with 5 in 1916, 5 in 1917, 6 in 1918, and 5 in 1919.

Undernoted are particulars as to some of the worst cases discovered in 1921:—

(a) In a one-roomed house there were living the father, mother, three daughters, aged respectively 17, 9, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, and three sons, aged respectively 15, 13, and 6 years—a total of $6\frac{1}{2}$ adults, whereas there is accommodation in the house for two adults only.

This family has failed to find additional accommodation, although renewed efforts are now being made. Two members of the family have now left the house.

(b) In a two-roomed house there were living the father, mother, two daughters, aged respectively 21 and 18 years, a son aged 24, a son-in-law, with his wife and four young children all under the age of 10 years—a total of nine adults, whereas there is accommodation therein for four adults only.

The son-in-law, with his wife and family, have obtained a house, so that the overcrowding has been reduced considerably.

(c) In a two-roomed house there were living the father, mother, five daughters, aged respectively 18, 6, $4\frac{1}{2}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$, and 4-12th years, and two sons, aged respectively 18 and 10 years—a total of seven adults, whereas there is accommodation for four adults only.

This family has now obtained a house large enough to meet their needs.

(d) In a three-roomed house there were living the father, mother, five sons, aged respectively 15, 14, 12, 8, and 4 years, and a son-in-law and his wife—a total of eight adults, whereas there is accommodation for four adults only.

The son-in-law and his wife have removed, so there are now six adults living in the house.

(e) In a three-roomed house nine adults were living, whereas there is accommodation for five adults only.

This family, who are hawkers, are meantime travelling the country, but on their return in the winter time they will have the greatest difficulty in finding adequate accommodation.

(f) Two families of hawkers were found living in a one-roomed house, the total number being $9\frac{1}{2}$ adults, whereas there is accommodation for $4\frac{1}{2}$ adults only.

Two days after the "Intimation of Nuisance" was served, one of the families was successful in getting another house, with the result that the apartment is not now overcrowded, being occupied by the father, mother, and two children.

Apart, however, from the question of overcrowding as judged by a standard of cubic capacity, there must be kept in mind the unsatisfactory conditions which exist in a large number of houses in the City as regards the non-separation of the sexes. Sub-letting on the part of tenants has become very common in recent years owing to the high prices which can be commanded for the use of furnished rooms. There is also a large number of recently married persons who, on account of being unable to find houses, have had no alternative but to reside with their parents. This state of matters is not conducive to the well-being of any community.

For the class of tenant mentioned the erection of the houses approved of by the Board of Health under the Housing Schemes will not satisfy their requirements, as, in the majority of cases, they would be unable to pay the rents required for these houses. Moreover, it is obvious that there is a sufficient number of potential tenants for all such houses which can be erected within the next few years.

Structural Defects and Want of Repair.

A complete sanitary survey is made of all houses in which a case of tuberculosis has occurred, or to which a person suffering from that disease may remove.

The number of surveys made in each of the years under review was as follows:—

1916	.	.	.	1,475	1919	.	.	.	465
1917	.	.	.	1,230	1920	.	.	.	590
1918	.	.	.	575	1921	.	.	.	571

The decreased number of houses surveyed during the last four years of the period under review, as compared with the earlier two years, is due to the comparatively small number of removals which have taken place during the later years.

All structural defects and want of repair found in these houses were dealt with. Special attention was paid to the proper ventilation of the sleeping apartments and to their freedom from dampness.

Systematic inspection of houses is regularly carried out by the District Inspectors; and valuable assistance is rendered in this connection by the Health Visitors and Infectious Disease Inspectors, who immediately report all defects in the houses visited by them. Such houses are inspected by the District Inspectors, and notices are served to have the necessary repairs carried out.

There is no doubt that a considerable amount of the want of repair in a number of houses is due to carelessness or malicious mischief on the part of tenants or their families. In this connection it would be helpful if the legislature extended to all houses the provisions of Section 49 of the Housing and Town Planning (Scotland) Act, 1919, which enacts that “any person who wilfully or by culpable negligence, damages or suffers to be damaged any house provided for the working classes *under the Housing Acts*, or any of the fittings or appurtenances of any such house, including the drainage and water supply and any apparatus connected with the drainage or water supply, and the fence of any enclosure, shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings without prejudice to any remedy for the recovery of the amount of the damage.”

Verminous Houses.

For a number of years the Department has been in the habit when serving notices upon the owners of bug-infested houses to enclose a slip of instructions for destroying fleas, bugs, and lice. In these instructions full directions are given as to how to deal with the vermin, but in practice it has been found that owing to the instructions not being fully carried out, in many cases the houses have become re-infested.

Accordingly, early in 1921, I adopted the practice of serving notices under Section 40 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, on both owner and occupier. Along with the notice sent to the owner, I enclosed a letter stating that if all the paper was removed from the walls, and the skirtings and door facings stripped, the Department was prepared to fumigate thoroughly with sulphur all the infested rooms. It was also made a condition that after fumigation all broken plaster should be properly repaired, and that the walls should be distempered in place of being re-papered.

The occupier was also informed that if he was prepared to treat all the furniture and furnishings in his house in the manner described in the Instructions, the

Department would supply the necessary disinfectant, and would also remove for steam disinfection all articles of clothing and bedding which could not be boiled.

During 1921, 154 houses were dealt with in the manner described, and up to the date of writing this report, there has been in no single instance re-infestation of the premises.

The following table gives particulars as to the work done in each of the years under review under the agreement between the Education Authority and the Town Council for dealing with verminous persons and houses:—

	SCABIES.			VERMIN.		
	Number of Houses Disinfected.	Number of Families Cleansed at Cleansing Station.	Total Number of Persons Cleansed.	Number of Houses Disinfected.	Number of Families Cleansed at Cleansing Station.	Total Number of Persons Cleansed.
1916 . .	28	28	134	24	24	144
1917 . .	19	19	106	45	39	185
1918 . .	23	22	109	18	14	117
1919 . .	21	21	72	37	17	100
1920 . .	71	71	266	78	45	300
1921 . .	52	52	267	93	57	335
TOTALS . .	214	213	954	295	196	1,181

In addition to the foregoing, the following Table gives particulars as to the number of other persons treated at the Cleansing Station:—

	SCABIES.		VERMIN.	
	Number of Persons Cleansed.	Including Army and Navy Cases.	Number of Persons Cleansed.	Including Army and Navy Cases.
1916	25	8	205	181
1917	72	47	254	247
1918	105	75	207	161
1919	92	20	139	110
1920	114	5	34	17
1921	33	1	72	34
TOTALS	441	156	911	750

Filthy Houses.

A sharp look-out is kept by the District Inspectors for all houses which are in a filthy condition, and the number dealt with in each of the years 1919-21 is given on p. 17.

In a number of instances, filthy conditions were found in the homes of the aged and infirm poor. This is a type of case which it is very difficult to deal with, as frequently these persons are living alone, and are prone to resent any assistance being given by friends or neighbours. Their independence is commendable, but the question of their personal welfare and safety as well as that of other persons dwelling in the same tenement cannot be overlooked. The necessity of obtaining powers, in the interests of the public health, for having such persons and their houses better looked after has frequently been advocated.

It is often found that some tenants on vacating a house leave behind them large accumulation of old chaff, ashes, and other rubbish. It is obviously unfair that the proprietor should have to bear the cost of removing such rubbish, and every effort is made to trace the defaulting tenants. In two such cases it was necessary to take proceedings in Court, and in each case decree was granted for the removal of the rubbish, and, in addition to having to remove the rubbish, the defaulting tenants were fined 20s. and 26s. respectively.

Want of Cleanliness of W.C.'s, Lobbies, Staircases, Back Courts, and other parts of premises used in common.

Details of the work done in this connection will be found on p. 17.

Nine prosecutions were instituted under Section 31 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, against tenants for failing to clean the w.c.'s. Five prosecutions were similarly instituted under the local Acts against tenants for failing to clean the lobbies or back courts. Convictions were obtained in every case—the penalties ranging from 1s. to 5s. In the majority of cases the magistrate was unable to discover which one of the tenants was at fault, so penalties were imposed on all the tenants.

Whitewashing, &c., of Lobbies, Staircases, &c.

This work has been regularly attended to annually. Details will be found on p. 16.

On only one occasion was it necessary to institute legal proceedings, and a penalty of 40s. was imposed.

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Accumulations of ashes, filth, and other rubbish removed	329	259	287
Accumulations of stagnant water removed	11	18	25
Cesspools cleaned out	1	0	21
Cesspool closed up	1	0	0
Ditch cleaned out	0	0	
Ashpits cleaned out	2	3	4
Privies cleaned out	1	5	4

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Privies provided with pails	2	0	2
Accumulations of manure removed	41	58	30
Manure pits provided	3	2	0
Manure pits repaired	4	3	3
Courts paved	1	3	2
Passages paved	0	2	2
Courts repaired	21	39	86
Passages repaired	5	29	47
Private street repaired	0	1	0
Damp dwelling-houses remedied	32	63	65
Unsuitable apartments disused as sleeping apartments .	3	6	0
Overcrowding abated	42	66	78
Enclosed beds opened up	4	1	2
Improved window ventilation for dwelling apartments	68	43	24
Broken sash cords renewed	89	64	190
Broken quadrants renewed or repaired	4	8	26
Windows of dwelling apartments reglazed or repaired .	35	129	277
Roof-lights of dwelling apartments reglazed or repaired	4	9	15
Windows or roof-lights of lobbies or staircases reglazed .	38	46	166
Windows or roof-lights of water-closets reglazed . .	26	37	127
Additional ventilation provided for staircases . .	3	1	1
Additional light provided for staircase	0	1	1
Additional ventilation provided for water-closet apart- ments	8	2	6
Additional light provided for water-closet apartments .	3	1	3
Additional ventilation provided for wash-house . .	1	0	0
Walls of dwelling-houses re-harled	1	4	1
Roof coverings of dwelling-houses repaired	25	56	59
Cellars repaired (roofs, walls, doors, &c.)	23	35	62
Plaster on walls and ceilings of dwelling-houses repaired	53	279	386
Plaster on walls and ceilings of lobbies and staircases repaired	268	452	522
Plaster on walls and ceilings of pends and passages re- paired	28	28	35
Plaster on walls and ceilings of water-closets repaired .	182	145	307
Plaster on walls and ceilings of wash-houses repaired .	159	162	223
Walls and ceilings of dwelling apartments whitewashed or repapered	34	97	133
Walls and ceilings of lobbies and staircases whitewashed or otherwise cleaned	784	1261	1794
Walls and ceilings of passages whitewashed	194	184	277
Walls and ceilings of private pends limewashed . .	33	43	46
Walls and ceilings of water-closets whitewashed . .	1929	2628	3152
Walls and ceilings of wash-houses whitewashed . .	1353	1527	1593

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Walls and ceilings of drying lofts whitewashed	19	30	38
Floors of dwelling apartments repaired	19	51	96
Floors of lobbies, landings, and stairsteps repaired	43	87	171
Floors of water-closets repaired	10	10	22
Floors of wash-houses repaired	13	36	39
Wash-houses repaired (roofs, walls, boilers, tubs, doors, windows, &c)	153	190	441
Water-closet apartments repaired (roofs, walls, doors, and seats)	164	193	378
Locks for water-closet apartments provided or repaired	16	27	90
Water-closet apartments opened up	5	5	0
Woodwork around sinks renewed or repaired	30	67	125
Defective chimneys repaired	27	29	41
Grates and fireplaces repaired	8	57	127
Doors of dwelling-houses repaired or provided	23	25	67
Door furniture renewed or repaired	2	22	56
Woodwork of cupboards repaired	2	8	18
Stair handrails or balustrades repaired	7	16	26
Boundary walls repaired	0	2	12
Palings repaired	0	1	1
Back courts and areas cleaned	62	100	83
Passages cleaned	26	39	49
Entrance lobbies, stairsteps, and landings cleaned	81	88	124
Floors, seats, and basins of w.c.'s cleaned	193	177	219
Floors of wash-houses cleaned	9	26	35
Floors of drying lofts cleaned	5	9	12
Sinks cleaned	6	6	3
Washtubs cleaned	0	0	2
Floors of dwelling apartments cleaned	68	39	78
Dwelling apartments in which articles of furniture were cleaned	32	35	74
Sets of bed and body clothing cleaned	26	36	71
Nuisances caused by domestic animals abated	45	103	104
Offensive smells in dwelling apartments abated	10	23	61
Houses cleared of bugs	25	43	154

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTION) ACT, 1920.

The above-mentioned Act, which in Scotland is applicable to houses of an annual rent not exceeding £90, empowers a landlord, subject to certain conditions, to make specified increases in the rents. The occupier, however, is entitled to apply to the Sanitary Authority for a certificate on the ground that the house is not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, or is otherwise not in a reasonable state of repair. If a certificate is granted, application can be made in the Sheriff

Court for an order suspending the increase until the Court is satisfied on the report of the Sanitary Authority or otherwise that the necessary repairs (other than the repairs, if any, for which the tenant is liable) have been executed, and on the making of such order, the increase shall cease to have effect until the Court is so satisfied.

In 1920, 15 applications for certificates were received, and in 10 cases certificates were granted. In 1921 the number of applications was 22, and the number of certificates granted was also 10. The majority of the certificates granted was on account of the houses not being "in all respects in a reasonable state of repair." In no case in either year was an application made to the Court for an order to suspend the increase.

In addition to the formal applications, however, a large number of complaints were received from tenants regarding the condition of their houses, and, in lodging the complaints, specific reference was made to the provisions contained in the above-mentioned Act. The number of such complaints in 1920 was 218, of which 14 were found to be groundless; while in 1921 the number of such complaints was 89, of which three were groundless.

On an inspection of the houses it was found that, in the great majority of cases, certain repairs were required, and notices were served upon the owners calling upon them to execute the necessary work. Along with the notice was sent a letter pointing out the provisions of Section 2, Sub-Section 2 of the Act. Generally speaking, these notices were immediately complied with, and this accounts for the small number of formal applications which were received. The defects dealt with included, *inter alia*, defective roof coverings, dampness, flooring, stairsteps, hand-rails, and balustrades out of repair, windows, doors (including door furniture), cupboards, fireplaces and grates, wash-houses, and coal cellars out of repair, defective w.c.'s and sinks, broken plaster, and torn and dirty wallpaper.

There is no doubt that the Act has been of great assistance in enabling the Department to get necessary repairs promptly carried out.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

As compared with many other large towns, Aberdeen is comparatively free from nuisance caused by the excessive emission of dense smoke.

During 1921, forty-one observations—each of an hour's duration—were made of the quantities of smoke emitted from factory chimneys, and, as in twelve cases the quantities of smoke were excessive, "Intimations of Nuisance" under the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, were served upon the proprietors.

In every instance an improvement was effected—at least, temporarily—by more careful attention to the methods of firing and to the kind of fuel used. There is no doubt, however, that in some cases the nuisance can only be remedied by the provision of mechanical stokers or some adequate smoke-consuming apparatus.

These observations have been continued during 1922, and "Intimations" have again had to be served on several owners of factories, with the result that in several instances a smoke-consuming apparatus has been provided.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Slaughter-Houses.

At the end of 1921 there were five slaughter-houses in the City, with 33 slaughter booths. The situation of these premises is as follows:—

Situation.	No. of Booths.
Hutcheon Street	25
Canal Place	1
Charles Street	3
Western Road, Woodside	2
Deer Road, Woodside	2
	—
Total	33
	—

By order of the Food Ministry, all the smaller slaughter-houses were closed during the period from 25th May, 1918, to 3rd July, 1920, and all the slaughtering was concentrated in Hutcheon Street Slaughter-house. This was of great advantage from the public health point of view, as it enabled better supervision to be kept over all animals slaughtered.

Prosecutions were instituted for contraventions relating to the following:—

(a) *Removal of diseased carcase without written consent and without having been inspected.*—In July, 1920, two slaughtermen were convicted of contraventions of the above bye-law. One was fined £3 and the other £5. In October, 1921, a slaughterman was fined £2 for a similar offence.

(b) *Stripping lining membrane from a diseased carcase and removing carcase without having been inspected.*—In January, 1917, a slaughterman was fined £2.

(c) *Cleansing of slaughtering implements, &c.*—In July, 1916, two slaughtermen were each fined £2 for failing to keep their implements in a clean condition. In December, 1918, an employer and his employee were each fined £1 for failing to keep their slaughtering implements and the floor and fittings of the slaughter-booth in a clean condition.

(d) *Keeping records of slaughtered animals.*—In August, 1921, a cattle dealer was fined £1 for failing to make to the Sanitary Inspector the required monthly return of the animals slaughtered by him.

Other Offensive Trades.

At the end of 1921 there were 26 firms in the City who carry on one or more of the businesses set forth in the Public Health Act as coming within the definition of offensive trades.

The following is a list of the offensive businesses carried on:—

Bone Boilers	6	Gut or Tripe Cleaners	4
Tallow Melters	12	Blood Boilers	3
Skinners or Hide Factors	5	Soap Boiler	1
Knackers	2	Manufacturer of Albumoid	
Tanners	2	Substances from Fish	1
Fish Oil Manufacturers	3		—
Manure Manufacturers	5	Total	48
Fish Meal Manufacturer	1		—
Tripe Boilers	3		

During the period under review, eleven applications were received for the sanction of the Town Council to establish or extend the businesses of one or other of the offensive trades enumerated in the Act and were reported on by the Medical Officer of Health and myself. Eight of the applications were granted, one was withdrawn, and two were refused. One of the applications refused was that by a firm of fish merchants who desired to establish the business of the manufacture of fish meal. An appeal was lodged with the Scottish Board of Health, who, after due consideration and inquiry, dismissed the appeal and determined, in terms of Section 32 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, that the sanction of the Local Authority was properly withheld.

There are in the City two factories where fish meal or fish guano is manufactured, but each of these businesses was established prior to the passing of the Act, and, consequently, did not require the sanction of the Local Authority. Up till two or three years ago, numerous complaints were received regarding offensive smells from the fish meal factory, but, as the result of improved apparatus and more careful management, there has been little cause for complaint since that date.

Very offensive smells proceeding from a fish manure factory at Cove—four miles distant—have been observed within the City from time to time, and the Department communicated with the proprietors of the works and the County Authorities with the view of steps being taken to prevent a recurrence of the nuisance. In the autumn of 1921, new arrangements were made regarding the treatment of the fumes, and since that time there has not been so much cause for complaint.

Complaints have also been received regarding offensive smells from a fish oil manufactory and from tallow melting premises. In each case arrangements were made for burning the fumes, with the result that under ordinary conditions there should be no further cause for complaint.

From our experience, however, we find that, if the material used is allowed to become putrid before being dealt with, offensive smells are bound to arise. Certain of the offensive trades are visited daily in order to ensure that the best practical means are being used for preventing effluvia.

PIG-STYES.

In February, 1916, the Local Government Board approved of "Additional Bye-laws" made by the Town Council. Under these bye-laws the Local Authority were given power during the period of the war, and one year thereafter, in regard to any premises that may be erected or brought into occupation for use as a pig-sty to modify or suspend the application of the existing bye-laws in so far as related to the situation and construction of the pig-styes. In exercising such power, the Local Authority may direct that the premises shall not continue to be used as a pig-sty beyond such period as may be specified in each case by the Local Authority, but in no case for a period longer than six years after the conclusion of the war, unless the premises have been brought into compliance with the requirements of the existing bye-laws.

At the end of 1921 there were 73 pig-styes on the register, 17 of these having been licensed under the "Additional Bye-laws." All the pig-styes are visited periodically.

Three persons were prosecuted under a local Act for keeping pigs in unlicensed premises. Two were fined 20s. each and the third was admonished.

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Walls and ceilings of pig-styes limewashed	166	290	397
Walls and ceilings of boiling-houses limewashed	7	10	6
Additional ventilation provided for pig-styes	0	0	9
Walls of pig-styes repaired	0	0	11
Roofs of pig-styes repaired	4	0	4
Floors of pig-styes repaired	27	12	27
Partition walls repaired	3	0	0
Boiling-houses repaired	0	1	9
Boiler repaired	1	0	0
Courtyards repaired	2	0	10
Passages repaired	9	0	4
Manure pits repaired	1	0	5
Manure pit provided	1	0	0
Feeding troughs repaired	0	0	2
Floors of pig-styes cleaned	56	78	66
Floors of boiling-houses cleaned	5	11	6
Feeding troughs cleaned	0	2	4
Courtyards cleaned	2	0	5
Passages cleaned	2	0	0
Improved means of drainage provided	3	0	10
Cesspool cover renewed	0	0	1
Cesspools emptied	7	3	16
Accumulations of stagnant water removed	0	0	3
Accumulations of manure removed	28	0	24
Windows reglazed	1	3	4
Windows cleaned	0	0	4
Choked drains cleared out	0	0	5
Ditch cleaned	1	0	0

WORKSHOPS (Excluding BAKEHOUSES).

The number of workshops (excluding bakehouses) on the register at the end of 1921 was 788. A number of workshops are, through the introduction of motive power, being converted into factories, and during the year 1921, 25 were so converted.

All workshops are visited at least once a year, but the fishcuring and provision-curing works are visited very frequently—some of them almost daily. These repeated visits are not, however, included in the total number of visits given in the table herewith submitted, as the primary reason of the visit is the inspection of food. The Food Inspector reports any insanitary condition which may be found, and the attention of the occupier is immediately directed thereto.

The homes of all outworkers are also visited at least once annually. If the statutory lists are not received on the specified dates, the employers are reminded of their omission.

All notices under Sections 5 and 9 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, are duly attended to, and reports of the action taken sent to the Factory Inspector.

Inspection of Plans.

The plans of all new workshops or factories where foodstuffs are prepared, and all such premises where alterations or additions thereto were made, were reported on to the Plans Committee by the Medical Office of Health and myself, and the recommendations made thereon were agreed to.

	1919.	1920.	1921.
On register at beginning of year	768	776	806
Added during year	28	67	63
Closed during year	18	34	56
Converted into factories	2	3	25
On register at end of year	776	806	788
Number of visits paid	2101	2295	2331
Walls and ceilings of workshops limewashed or otherwise cleaned	99	55	66
Walls and ceilings of water-closets limewashed or otherwise cleaned	35	16	29
Staircases or passages limewashed	3	0	3
Basins of water-closets cleaned	65	21	46
Floors of water-closet apartments cleaned	44	15	23
Seats of water-closets cleaned	21	10	14
Wash-hand basins cleaned	4	0	0
Floors of workshops cleaned	2	4	9
Floors of staircases or passages cleaned	2	0	4
Plaster on walls and ceilings of workshops repaired	3	0	6
Locks provided for water-closets	4	0	2
Seats of water-closets repaired or renewed	3	2	7

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Doors of water-closets repaired	5	0	0
Defective water-closets repaired	2	5	12
Defective rainwater pipes repaired	2	0	0
Choked water-closets cleared out	8	4	3
Choked drains or pipes cleared out	3	7	1
Additional water-closet accommodation provided	3	2	1
Water-closet fitted up in lieu of privy	0	0	1
Additional water supply provided for water-closet	5	0	0
Water-closets disconnected from workshops	2	0	0
Intervening ventilating space provided between water-closet and workshop	1	1	0
Windows cleaned	5	0	0
Privies cleaned out	1	2	1
Overcrowding abated	1	1	1
Additional ventilation provided for workshops	4	2	5
Sash cords renewed	7	3	6
Additional ventilation provided for water-closets	1	0	2
Offensive smells from coal gas abated	1	1	2
Means provided for conveying gas fumes into chimney	1	7	3
Floors of workshops repaired	1	3	3
Doors of water-closets repaired or renewed	3	2	1
Windows reglazed	7	13	7
Courtyards repaired	8	15	3
Courtyards cleaned	11	19	11
Accumulations of rubbish removed	23	32	23
Accumulations of manure removed	13	25	12
Stances provided for fish offal receptacles	0	2	0
Manure pit repaired	0	1	0
Domestic animals removed from workshops	0	2	0
Improved access provided for water-closets	0	4	0
Other complaints removed	2	1	8

BAKEHOUSES.

There were at the end of 1921 75 bakehouses in the City, 35 of these being classed as factories and 40 as workshops. A number of the latter are small bakehouses, used solely for the baking of scones, pastry, or pies.

All the bakehouses are visited regularly.

	1919.	1920.	1921.
On register at beginning of year	65	70	71
Added during year	10	8	6
Closed during year	5	7	2
On register at end of year	70	71	75

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Number of visits paid	526	343	438
Bakehouses limewashed	39	33	68
Glazed walls cleaned	10	8	13
Pastry-rooms limewashed	2	6	11
Stores or cellars limewashed	15	12	51
Water-closets limewashed	22	16	42
Passages limewashed	2	2	3
Dining-hall cleaned	0	0	1
Floors of bakehouses cleaned	28	21	16
Floors of stores cleaned	21	11	13
Floors of pastry-rooms cleaned	7	5	12
Floors of cloakrooms cleaned	3	1	9
Stairsteps cleaned	7	3	4
Floors of water-closets cleaned	18	13	33
Basins of water-closets cleaned	11	10	31
Seats of water-closets cleaned	11	10	25
Urinal stalls cleaned	0	0	6
Sinks or washhand basins cleaned	2	8	8
Spittoons cleaned	0	0	8
Ovens and hot plates cleaned	8	5	11
Baking machines cleaned	8	19	19
Steam presses cleaned	5	7	12
Bakehouse tables cleaned	9	17	17
Baking utensils cleaned	6	9	8
Woodwork of doors cleaned	2	0	0
Courtyards cleaned	4	4	3
Choked water-closets cleared out	1	0	3
Defective sinks repaired	1	1	5
Defective water-closets repaired	3	5	5
Defective waste pipes repaired	1	0	1
Floors of bakehouses repaired	11	3	8
Floor of water-closet repaired	1	0	0
Bakehouse tables repaired	1	1	3
Water supply provided	1	0	0
Dampness remedied	1	0	3
Seats of water-closets repaired	5	1	6
Plaster on walls and ceilings of bakehouses repaired	8	5	9
Plaster on walls and ceilings of flour stores repaired	4	1	4
Windows reglazed	1	5	16
Bunkers for coal provided	1	0	2
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed	14	3	6
Manure pit repaired	1	0	0
Cloakroom accommodation provided	5	0	0
Covers provided for food receptacles	5	8	6

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES AND HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

At the end of 1921 there were only two common lodging-houses in the City, viz., the Sailors' Home and the Home for Deep Sea Fishermen. All the remaining common lodging-houses were, in 1920, owing to the charge per night having been increased beyond the sum of 6d., transferred to the register of houses let in lodgings.

The number of houses let in lodgings on the register at the same date was 34.

All these houses are inspected regularly both by day and by night.

In 1919 the occupier of a house let in lodgings was convicted of failing to give free access to the house, and was fined 21s.

In 1921 the same occupier was charged with permitting lodgers to be accommodated in two unregistered rooms, and with permitting a registered room to be overcrowded. A fine of £2 for each offence—a total of £6—was imposed.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

At the end of 1921 there were 556 persons registered to purvey milk (including ice cream) within the City. This number includes farmers who, although they have not premises within the City, retail milk from carts.

The number of cowsheds has been steadily reduced within recent years, and at the close of last year they numbered only 22. The number of cows was 215.

All the dairies and milkshops are regularly visited by one of the assistant inspectors. In 1919 the number of such visits was 3,520, in 1920 3,012, and in 1921 2,133. Every effort has been made to increase the standard of cleanliness and tidiness in these premises. In only one case was it necessary to institute legal proceedings against a purveyor of milk for failing to keep the premises in conformity with the Regulations, and, as the shopkeeper decided to give up selling milk, the complaint was withdrawn.

The herds in all the byres are regularly examined by Mr. James M'Allan, Veterinary Inspector, who also looks after the sanitary condition of these premises.

Undernoted are particulars of the work done:—

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Walls of milkshops cleaned	82	101	140
Ceilings of milkshops cleaned	21	58	67
Ceilings of back rooms cleaned	14	31	34
Walls of staircases to basement whitewashed	3	1	4
Windows cleaned	6	21	32
Doors painted	2	0	0
Shelves, counters, and other fittings cleaned	29	25	29
Sinks cleaned	10	4	9
Milk vessels cleaned	18	19	13
Cupboards cleaned	2	0	2
Stairsteps cleaned	2	1	0

	1918.	1919.	1920.
Floors cleaned	59	42	35
Floors, seats, and basins of w.c.'s cleaned	0	1	3
Curtains washed	7	4	0
General cleanliness improved	28	12	11
Floor coverings renewed or repaired	52	69	44
Counter coverings renewed or repaired	23	10	1
Floors repaired	4	9	8
Plaster repaired	13	4	10
Doors repaired	1	0	2
Shelves repaired or provided	3	0	9
Milk vessels renewed	2	4	4
Covers for milk vessels provided	4	5	2
Covers for milk vessels repaired	3	0	0
Warnings given regarding covers not being used	11	12	16
Washhouse boilers repaired	4	0	0
Sinks provided	0	1	2
Woodwork of sinks repaired	7	3	4
Water pipes repaired	2	0	0
Choked drains cleared out	2	0	0
Choked sinks cleared out	3	1	0
Windows reglazed	19	5	1
Perforated zinc over windows renewed	3	1	1
Improved ventilation provided	2	20	17
Improved lighting provided	0	3	0
Dampness remedied	4	0	1
Accumulations of rubbish removed	20	21	34
Milkcarts cleaned	0	1	12

INSPECTION OF SHOPS WHERE FOODSTUFFS ARE SOLD.

(Section 59 of the Aberdeen Police and Waterworks Amendment Act, 1867.)

Under the above Section 1,260 shops were inspected during the year, and in 110 cases notices were served on the occupants regarding the condition of their shops. These notices referred chiefly to the dirty condition of the walls and ceilings of the shops and of the cellars where foodstuffs are stored, and to the dirty condition of the floors and fittings.

The accompanying table gives a detailed account of the work done in this connection :—

Walls and ceilings of shops cleaned	10
Walls and ceilings of cellars cleaned	16
Walls and ceilings of w.c.'s cleaned	2
Floors of shops cleaned	15

Floors, seats, and basins of w.c.'s cleaned	10
Fittings cleaned	16
Windows cleaned	4
Plaster on walls and ceiling repaired	1
W.c.'s repaired	3
Fittings repaired	6
Floors repaired	3
Drains cleared out	2
Wastepipe from sink cleared out	1
Accumulations of rubbish removed	13
Fish barrow cleaned	1

The following table gives particulars as to the shops visited :—

CLASS OF SHOP.	Number Inspected.	Found Satisfactory.	Found Unsatisfactory.	Number of Defects dealt with.
Grocers,	286	250	36	44
Butchers,	469	421	48	45
Restaurants,	95	88	7	3
Bakers,	9	9	...	..
Fruiterers,	203	196	7	10
Provisions and Cooked Meats,	11	10	1	1
Fishmongers,	183	172	11	18
Confectioners,	4	4	...	...
TOTALS,	1,260	1,150	110	121

PLACES OF PUBLIC REFRESHMENT.

The following table shows the various classes of shops on the register at the end of 1921 :—

Description of Shop.	Number.
Ice Cream	64
Fried Fish	19
Restaurants	95
Bakers	11
Aerated Water and Confectionery	1
Temperance Hotels	5
Dairies	3
Total	198

All these premises were visited from time to time in order to see that the Bye-laws for regulating the internal construction, lighting, and arrangement of registered premises with a view to the orderly conduct and control thereof, are being complied with.

In March, 1921, a restaurant-keeper was fined 20s. for opening up a door between the registered premises and the dwelling-rooms.

Prosecutions for contraventions of the Bye-laws for regulating the hours of opening and closing are instituted by the Police.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Undernoted are particulars regarding the number of inspections made and the quantities of food destroyed:—

INSPECTIONS.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Fish Market, . . .	318	311	387	325	330	317
Shipping Sheds, . . .	335	313	232	163	115	88
Fishcuring Premises, . .	735	761	635	1,453	2,086	1,622
Slaughter-houses, . . .	2,418	2,447	1,389	584	1,148	1,831
Meat Marts, . . .	1,177	1,211	1,105	1,258	1,216	1,196
Provision Curing Works, .	2,895	3,135	2,853	1,310	640	264
Wholesale Warehouses, .	346	369	379	307	407	372
Grocers' Shops, . . .	401	225	183	306	126	70
Fishmongers' Shops, . .	76	104	223	985	269	139
Fleshers' Shops, . . .	346	307	548	755	484	351
Fruiterers' Shops, . . .	29	11	8	101	49	121
Restaurants, . . .	49	44	274	622	567	487
New Market Hall, . . .	307	296	296	295	280	300
Street Markets, . . .	102	122	139	149	140	181
Other Premises, . . .	1,566	1,714	1,782	1,803	1,971	2,741
TOTALS, . . .	11,100	11,370	10,433	10,416	9,828	10,080

QUANTITIES OF UNSOUND FOOD DEALT WITH.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
*Beef,	225,759	195,926	345,459	548,996	509,376	241,046
*Veal,	2,401	924	3,045	1,928	3,655	1,767
*Mutton,	4,284	2,982	6,150	6,333	8,416	5,112
*Pork,	3,323	1,553	1,650	1,356	5,054	2,823
Offal,	2,135	1,582	3,742	12,960	12,107	6,433
Game,	182	173	445	402	3,087	943
Poultry,	874	871	478	1,361	139	367
Bacon and Ham, . . . .	...	630	27	40	...	193
Sausages, . . . . .	...	...	78	20	...	...
Tinned Food,	11,748	7,504	14,105	15,106	44,280	20,642
Butter, . . . . .	...	..	...	143	...	...
Cheese, . . . . .	...	...	...	...	170	...
Fruit and Vegetables, . .	1,089	...	...	5,348	1,694	1,912
Fish,	641,846	1,874	12,259	11,650	21,549	16,179
TOTALS,	893,641	214,019	387,438	605,653	609,527	297,417

* Including Offal where forming only part of seizure.

Of the 641,846 lbs. of fish destroyed in 1916, 604,674 lbs. were taken from Dutch trawlers which had been seized by the Admiralty. The fish were putrid before the vessels reached Aberdeen.

During the period 11th December, 1917, till 31st October, 1921, under an agreement between the Town Council and the Flesher Incorporation, the Incorporation undertook the sterilisation and preparation and sale of meat under conditions prescribed by the Medical Officer of Health. The meat thus dealt with was confined to the visibly sound portions of such carcasses of tuberculous, although well nourished, cattle as would ordinarily have been considered unfit for human food.

The total quantity of raw, boned, selected meat supplied for sterilisation purposes amounted to 4,717 lbs. in 1917 (3 weeks), 94,111 lbs. in 1918, 96,097 lbs. in 1919, 65,013 lbs. in 1920, and 34,468 lbs. in 1921 (10 months). The quantities are included in the figures given in the foregoing table.

Tinned Foods.

Considerable attention was paid to the inspection of tinned foods. During the war seven factories were engaged in supplying Army rations for the Government. All these factories were visited daily in order to ensure that the meat used was of good quality and free from disease, and also that scrupulous cleanliness was observed in and about the works.

By arrangement with both wholesale and retail merchants, all "blown" or damaged tins are set aside until they have been examined by the Meat Inspectors.

Prosecutions.

In only three cases was it found necessary to take legal proceedings against anyone for having in his possession, or having consigned for sale, food which was unfit for human consumption.

In 1918 a dealer was fined £5, with 18s 6d. of expenses, for having consigned for sale the carcase of a pig which was unfit for human food.

In 1921 two prosecutions were instituted—a fruiterer was fined 10s. for exposing for sale a quantity of gooseberries which were unfit for human food, and a cattle dealer was fined £10 for having consigned for sale the carcase of a cow which was unfit for human food.

THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The following samples were purchased in accordance with the Acts, and submitted to the City Analyst, viz. :—

1916.

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES PROCURED.			NUMBER NOT GENUINE.			Number of Prosecutions.	Number Successful.	Amount of Fines Imposed.
	Formal	In-formal.	TOTAL.	Formal	In-formal.	TOTAL.			
Milk,	266	0	266	45	0	45	36	36	£137 2 0
Skimmed Milk, . . .	58	0	58	11	0	11	5	5	13 0 0
Cream,	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1 0 0
Butter,	63	3	66	12	1	13	12	12	16 12 6
Margarine,	19	5	24	2	0	2	2	2	6 6 0
Cheese,	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	... ..
Oatmeal,	12	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Tapioca,	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Flour,	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Wholemeal Flour, . . .	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Jams and Jellies, . . .	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Syrup,	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Sugar (Brown),	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.. ...
Coffee,	10	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Drugs,	9	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	.. ...
TOTALS,	449	22	471	71	1	72	56	56	£174 0 6

In addition to above, 44 unofficial samples were taken at byres or in course of transit between byre and City.

1917.

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES PROCURED.			NUMBER NOT GENUINE.			Number of Prosecutions.	Number Successful.	Amount of Fines Imposed.
	Formal	In- formal.	TOTAL.	Formal	In- formal.	TOTAL.			
Milk,	252	1	253	51	1	52	37	35	£208 1 0
Skimmed Milk, . .	50	0	50	2	0	2	1	1	25 0 0
Butter,	45	0	45	9	0	9	6	6	9 0 0
Margarine,	13	4	17	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cheese,	12	4	16	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Semolina,	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Flour,	0	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Jams and Jellies, . .	14	2	16	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Coffee,	9	2	11	1	0	1	0	0	.....
TOTALS,	395	26	421	63	1	64	44	42	£242 1 0

In addition to above, 58 unofficial samples were taken at byres or in course of transit between byre and City.

1918.

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES PROCURED.			NUMBER NOT GENUINE.			Number of Prosecutions.	Number Successful.	Amount of Fines Imposed.
	Formal	In-formal.	TOTAL.	Formal	In-formal.	TOTAL.			
Milk,	240	0	240	19	0	19	9	9	£35 0 0
Skimmed Milk,	18	0	18	1	0	1	1	1	3 0 0
Butter,	18	1	19	3	0	3	0	0	.....
Margarine,	24	0	24	2	0	2	2	0	.....
Dripping,	9	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Oatmeal,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Ground Rice,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Tapioca,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cornflour,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Semolina,	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Confectionery,	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Jams and Jellies,	12	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Coffee,	6	0	6	1	0	1	0	0	.....
Whisky,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Rum,	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Drugs,	0	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	.....
TOTALS,	359	15	374	26	0	26	12	10	£38 0 0

In addition to above, 22 unofficial samples were taken at byres or in course of transit between byre and City.

1919.

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES PROCURED.			NUMBER NOT GENUINE.			Number of Prosecutions.	Number Successful.	Amount of Fines Imposed.
	Formal	In-formal.	TOTAL.	Formal	In-formal.	TOTAL.			
Milk,	262	4	266	31	0	31	22	20	£47 12 0
Skimmed Milk, . . .	17	0	17	2	0	2	2	2	1 0 0
Butter,	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Margarine,	65	0	65	3	0	3	3	0	.....
Dripping,	11	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cheese,	11	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Oatmeal,	6	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Jams and Jellies, . .	11	1	12	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Coffee,	12	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Whisky,	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Rum,	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	.. ...
Drugs,	0	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	.....
TOTALS,	404	22	426	36	0	36	27	22	£48 12 0

In addition to above, 37 unofficial samples of milk were taken at byres or in course of transit between byre and City.

1920.

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES PROCURED.			NUMBER NOT GENUINE.			Number of Prosecutions.	Number Successful.	Amount of Fines Imposed.
	Formal	In- formal.	TOTAL.	Formal	In- formal.	TOTAL.			
Milk,	272	0	272	13	0	13	6	6	£25 12 0
Skimmed Milk, . . .	24	0	24	1	0	1	1	1	2 0 0
Butter,	26	4	30	1	0	1	0	0	.....
Margarine,	53	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Dripping,	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cheese,	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Jams and Jellies, . .	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Syrup,	5	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Tea,	9	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Coffee,	16	0	16	2	0	2	0	0	.....
Cinnamon,	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Black Pepper,	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	.....
White Pepper,	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	.. ...
Corn Flour,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Whisky,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Rum,	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Drugs,	1	20	21	1	0	1	1	1	1 1 0
TOTALS,	68	25	493	18	0	18	8	8	£28 13 0

In addition to above, 14 unofficial samples of milk were taken at byres or in course of transit between byre and City.

1921.

	NUMBER OF SAMPLES PROCURMD.			NUMBER NOT GENUINE.			Number of Prosecutions.	Number Successful.	Amount of Fines Imposed.
	Formal	In- formal.	TOTAL.	Formal	In- formal.	TOTAL.			
Milk,	431	0	431	27	0	27	15	14	£63 10 0
Skimmed Milk, . . .	34	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Butter,	24	1	25	2	1	3	2	2	2 0 0
Margarine,	36	0	36	1	0	1	0	0	.....
Lard,	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Dripping,	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Cheese,	13	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Jam,	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Coffee,	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	.. ...
Whisky,	12	0	12	1	0	1	1	1	2 0 0
Rum,	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	.....
Drugs,	0	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	.....
TOTALS,	583	19	602	31	1	32	18	17	£67 10 0

In addition to above, 27 unofficial samples of milk were taken at byres or in course of transit between byre and City.

It will be observed that the article of food most frequently found under the standard is milk.

The following table gives the number of official samples of sweet milk analysed in each of the last eight years, with particulars as to the numbers found adulterated :—

YEAR.	Number of Samples.	Number deficient in Fat.	Number deficient in Solids other than Fat.	Number deficient in both Fat and other Solids.	Total Number deficient.	Percentage deficient.	Number of Prosecutions.
1914, . . .	123	21	2	1	24	19·5	21
1915, . . .	207	21	6	5	32	15·6	25
1916, . . .	266	35	4	6	45	17·8	36
1917, . . .	252	36	12	3	51	20·2	37
1918, . . .	240	15	3	1	19	7·9	9
1919, . . .	262	25	3	3	31	11·8	22
1920, . . .	272	10	1	2	13	4·8	6
1921, . . .	431	18	7	2	27	6·3	15
TOTALS, .	2,053	181	38	23	242	11·8	171

It will be seen that the percentage of deficient samples reached its maximum in 1917, the percentage being 20·2. The number of samples which were deficient in solids other than fat was also greatest in that year. This indicates that “watering” of milk was common, because in none of the 32 byres visited during 1917 were any of the samples taken there found to be deficient in solids other than fat.

Since 1914 the practice of the Department in dealing with deficient samples of milk has been as follows :—

If milk purchased from a retailer is found to be under the standard, then, at the earliest possible moment—usually within 48 hours—a sample is taken from the farmer on delivery to the retailer, and, if this sample is also found deficient and to conform approximately to the sample obtained from the retailer, no proceedings are instituted against the retailer, but in lieu thereof a complaint is brought against the farmer.

Similarly, if a sample as supplied by the farmer is found to be under the standard, then the byre is visited and a sample taken from the “corresponding” milk delivered in the City. In each case a mixed sample of the milk of the entire herd is taken, but if the farmer can point out the cows which yielded the quantity of milk complained of, a sample of the milk of these cows is also taken.

The following table gives particulars as to the number of official samples of sweet milk procured from producers as compared with the number procured from retailers or wholesalers during the period 1914-21. In each case the number of samples found deficient at the byre or in course of delivery to the retailer or wholesaler is excluded:—

YEAR.	Number of Samples procured from Producers.	Number deficient.	Percentage deficient.	Number of Samples procured from Retailers or Wholesalers.	Number deficient.	Percentage deficient.
1914, . .	60	13	21·7	63	8	12·7
1915, . .	115	15	13·0	92	12	13·0
1916, . .	122	22	18·0	144	15	10·4
1917, . .	143	32	22·4	109	9	8·3
1918, . .	104	5	4·8	136	9	6·6
1919, . .	143	13	9·1	119	9	7·6
1920, . .	132	4	3·0	140	5	3·6
1921, . .	240	11	4·6	191	9	4·7
TOTALS, .	1,059	115	10·9	994	76	7·6

It will be observed that in 1917 no fewer than 32 out of the 41 deficient samples were obtained from producers.

During the following four years the total number of samples procured from producers amounted to 619, and of these 33 were found deficient, giving a percentage of 5·3, as compared with a corresponding percentage of 22·4 in 1917.

As regards the samples procured from retailers or wholesalers, the percentage of deficient samples reached its maximum in 1915, when the figure was 13·0. This percentage showed a fall almost annually until 1920, when it was 3·6. In 1921 the percentage rose to 4·7.

For the past few years our practice has been to take samples of milk four or five times every month. I am satisfied from my experience that constant sampling is the best means of ensuring that the public are supplied with milk which has not been tampered with.

So far as experience in Aberdeen indicates, I am of opinion that, generally speaking, the person who deliberately tampers with milk is the producer.

Undernoted are particulars regarding all the deficient samples of sweet milk procured from producers during the period 1914-21, together with similar information regarding samples of the corresponding milk procured at the byres. The majority of the complained of samples were taken from consignments embracing

the whole of the milk obtained at one milking. In other cases the consignment consisted of the product of either two or three milkings. When considered necessary, samples were procured at the byre of the "morning," "midday," and "evening" milks. It will be observed that in the majority of cases there was a considerable difference between the quality of the complained of sample as compared with the sample procured at the byre.

It will also be observed that during the period mentioned no fewer than 23 samples procured at byres were found deficient either in fat or solids not fat.

1914.

OFFICIAL SAMPLES			BYRE SAMPLES.		Remarks.
Fat.	Solids, not Fat.		Fat.	Solids, not Fat.	
2.04	9.36	.....	3.51	9.27	Penalty, £3.
2.92	8.94	.....	3.36	9.02	Penalty, £3.
2.19	8.77	.....	3.01	8.90	Penalty, £3.
2.91	8.87	.....	3.35	9.08	Penalty, £2.
2.46	9.12	.....	3.51	9.30	Penalty, £5 (2nd offence).
2.48	8.66	.....	3.05	8.69	Penalty, £5.
2.72	8.97	.....	3.25	8.98	Penalty, £3 3s.
2.10	8.59	.....	3.68	8.57	Penalty, £2.
2.41	8.68	.....	3.05	8.80	Penalty, £5 5s.
2.03	8.26	.....	4.0	8.50	Penalty, £5.
2.81	8.83	.....	3.25	8.95	Penalty, £3.
2.76	8.74	.....	2.51	8.61	No proceedings taken.
			2.65	8.71	Repeat sample taken in connection with immediately preceding case.
2.65	9.29	.....	4.45	9.18	Penalty, £2.
2.89	8.70	.....	3.24	8.85	Penalty, £2.

1915.

2.80	8.31	.....	3.43	8.77	Penalty, £3.
2.84	8.76	.....	3.69	8.81	Penalty, £3 3s.
2.82	8.37	.....	3.00	8.89	Penalty, £1.
2.36	9.36	.....	3.23	8.95	Penalty, £2.
2.58	9.21	.....	2.78	9.05	No proceedings taken.
2.82	7.31	.....	3.50	8.63	Penalty, £3 (2nd offence).
2.54	9.06	.....	3.40	8.99	Penalty, £5.
1.98	9.15	.....	3.25	8.94	Penalty, £1.
2.85	8.90	.....	2.85	8.91	No proceedings taken.
2.58	9.45	.....	3.59	8.65	Penalty, £5.
2.77	8.55	.....	3.60	8.89	Penalty, £1.
2.49	9.26	.....	3.05	9.29	Penalty, £5 (2nd offence).
3.01	8.40	.....	3.55	9.12	Penalty, £10 (3rd offence).

1916.

OFFICIAL SAMPLES.			BYRE SAMPLES.		Remarks.
Fat.	Solids, not Fat.		Fat.	Solids, not Fat.	
2.75	8.74	.....	{ Morning milk. 3.16 8.79 Evening Milk. 3.80 8.84 }		Penalty, £3.
2.48	8.83	.....	3.12	8.81	Penalty, £5.
2.69	8.78	.....	3.19	8.60	Penalty, £4.
2.63	9.35	.....	3.10	9.28	Penalty, £5.
2.72	8.75	.....	3.05	8.74	Penalty, £5 5s.
1.50	4.31	.....	3.86	8.64	Penalty, £5.
2.56	8.73	.....	3.01	8.82	Penalty, £4.
2.39	8.89	.....	3.43	8.66	Penalty, £4 (2nd offence).
1.88	9.20	.....	3.68	8.68	Penalty, £2.
2.56	6.66	.....	3.59	8.67	Penalty, £3.
2.85	9.01	.....	3.12	8.90	Penalty, £3.
3.27	7.73	.....	3.72	8.92	Penalty, £2.
2.91	8.19	.....	{ Morning milk. 3.30 8.58 Evening Milk. 3.33 8.71 }		Penalty, £2.
2.81	8.52	.....	3.25	8.68	Penalty, £6 (3rd offence).
2.44	8.87	.....	3.0	9.11	Penalty, £5.
2.70	7.63	.....	3.55	8.77	Penalty, £7.
2.75	8.89	.....	3.75	9.19	Penalty, £5.
2.69	9.06	.....	4.41	9.18	} Penalty, £15.
2.49	8.98	.....	—	—
2.63	9.26	.....	3.51	9.18	Penalty, £2.
2.73	8.72	.....	2.78	8.60	No proceedings taken.
2.03	8.00	.....	3.20	8.57	Penalty, £10 (3rd offence).
2.90	8.77	.....	3.66	9.03	Penalty, £5.

1917.

2.82	8.15	.....	3.60	9.07	Penalty, £5 (2nd offence).
3.00	8.44	.....	3.40	9.01	Penalty, £1 1s.
2.88	9.02	.....	3.21	8.98	Penalty, £30 (6th offence).
2.80	8.26	.....	3.90	9.24	Penalty, £5.
2.55	8.54	.....	3.90	8.99	Penalty, £10.
2.58	9.18	.....	{ Morning milk. 3.23 9.18 Evening Milk. 4.20 9.29 }		Penalty, £10.
2.89	8.96	.....	3.90	9.11	Penalty, £10.
3.11	8.36	.....	3.45	9.00	Penalty, £10.

1917—continued.

OFFICIAL SAMPLES.			BYRE SAMPLES.		Remarks.
Fat.	Solids, not Fat.		Fat,	Solids, not Fat.	
2·21	8·79	.....	{ Morning milk. 3·34 8·76 Evening Milk. 3·78 8·83 }		Penalty, £5.
3·02	8·12	.....	3·30	9·11	Penalty, £10.
3·0	8·24	.....	3·47	9·12	Penalty, £5.
2·40	7·89	.....	3·30	8·94	Penalty, £2 10s.
3·20	7·56	.....	3·54	8·93	Penalty, £7.
3·16	6·77	.....	4·42	8·86	Penalty, £5.
2·20	8·65	.....	3·04	8·83	Penalty, £5.
2·46	7·50	.....	4·98	8·20	Penalty, £3.
2·50	8·84	.....	2·77	9·00	No proceedings.
2·70	9·00	.....	{ Midday Milk. 3·56 8·99 Evening Milk. 3·75 9·09 }		Case not proven.
2·57	8·72	.....	2·84	8·71	No proceedings.
2·87	8·50	.....	2·89	8·77	No proceedings.
2·76	8·69	.....	3·14	8·72	Penalty, £3.
2·85	9·04	.....	3·52	9·17	Penalty, £5.
2·75	9·0	.....	3·41	8·89	Complaint withdrawn, as place of delivery was found to be outside Burgh.
2·75	8·96	.....	3·09	9·07	Penalty, £5.
2·80	8·79	.....	3·39	8·90	Penalty, £5.
2·58	8·96	.....	4·89	8·68	Penalty, £5.
3·08	8·13	.....	3·30	8·69	Penalty, £5.
3·61	8·25	.....	3·41	8·78	Penalty, £5.
2·76	8·63	.....	{ Morning milk. 2·91 8·79 Midday Milk. 3·53 9·06 Evening Milk. 3·18 8·97 }		No proceedings taken.
2·62	8·62	.....	3·38	8·77	Penalty, £5.
2·65	8·70	.....	3·39	8·77	Penalty, £5.
2·71	8·76	.....	3·11	8·84	Accused found not guilty.

1918.

2·59	8·96	.....	3·62	9·18	Penalty, £3.
2·82	8·86	.....	2·47	8·69	No proceedings taken.
2·44	8·44	.....	3·48	9·04	Penalty, £5.
2·86	8·83	.....	3·40	8·90	Penalty, £5.
2·71	8·50	.....	3·76	8·33	Penalty, £3.
3·29	8·23	.....	2·98	8·40	No proceedings taken.

1918—continued.

OFFICIAL SAMPLES.			BYRE SAMPLES.		Remarks.
Fat.	Solids, not Fat.		Fat.	Solids, not Fat.	
2·82	8·67	.....	2·80	8·89	No proceedings taken.
1·88	8·89	.....	4·09	9·02	Penalty, £10.

1919.

3·06	7·05	.....	4·20	9·16	Penalty, £3.		
2·31	7·61	.....	3·31	8·60	Penalty, £2.		
2·61	8·30	.....	3·00	8·74	Penalty, £5.		
2·88	8·77	.....	3·25	9·09	Penalty, £5.		
3·23	8·25	.....	3·49	8·80	Penalty, £2 2s.		
2·82	8·78	.....	3·62	8·95	Penalty, £2.		
2·84	8·85	.....	{	Morning milk.	}	Not proven.	
				2·90			8·91
				Midday Milk.			
				4·41			8·72
2·52	8·90	.....	{	Evening Milk.	}	Penalty, £3.	
				3·38			8·88
				3·22			8·80
				3·26			8·50
2·66	8·64	.....	{	Evening Milk.	}	Not proven.	
				3·66			8·94
				3·26			8·24
				3·26			8·50
3·46	8·29	.....			No proceedings taken.		
2·42	8·85	.....	{	Morning milk.	}	Case withdrawn.	
				3·17			8·97
				Evening Milk.			
				3·73			8·94
2·68	8·97	.....		2·76	9·01	No proceedings taken.	
2·72	9·13	.....	{	Morning milk.	}	Penalty, £3.	
				3·35			9·13
				Evening Milk.			
				4·16			9·49
2·85	8·91	.....		3·29	8·85	Penalty, £3.	
2·95	8·94	.....		2·85	9·10	No proceedings taken.	
2·80	8·97	.....		3·21	9·06	Penalty, £2 10s. (2nd offence).	

1920.

2.33	8.93	{		}	No proceedings taken.
			Morning milk.			
			2.95	8.81		
2.35	8.56	{		}	Fined £10 (offence).
			Midday Milk.			
			4.45	9.10		
2.66	8.83	3.66	8.82		Fined £3.
2.86	8.55	{		}	No proceedings taken, as were satisfied that milk had under- gone a change in course of transit.
			Evening Milk.			
			3.18	8.71		
			{		}	
			Morning Milk.			
			3.72	8.83		

1920—continued.

OFFICIAL SAMPLES.		BYRE SAMPLES.		Remarks.
Fat.	Solids, not Fat.	Fat.	Solids, not Fat.	
3.02	7.83	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>3.19 8.92</div> <div>Evening Milk.</div> <div>3.14 8.85</div> </div>	Penalty, £7 7s.
2.82	8.29	.....	2.82 8.35	No proceedings taken.
1921.				
2.75	8.87	.....	3.23 9.00	Penalty, £5.
2.86	9.04	.....	2.82 9.10	No proceedings taken.
2.89	8.91	.....	3.26 9.11	Penalty, £3 3s.
2.86	8.79	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>2.91 8.80</div> <div>Midday Milk.</div> <div>3.35 9.00</div> <div>Evening Milk.</div> <div>3.40 8.90</div> </div>	Penalty, £5.
3.11	8.09	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>3.22 8.86</div> <div>Evening Milk.</div> <div>4.00 9.00</div> </div>	Penalty, £4.
2.86	8.95	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>3.06 8.83</div> <div>Evening Milk.</div> <div>3.68 8.95</div> </div>	No proceedings taken.
2.61	8.10	.....	3.52 9.05	Penalty, £5.
3.46	8.29	.....	3.71 8.96	Penalty, £15 (offence).
2.86	8.76	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>2.91 8.50</div> <div>Midday Milk.</div> <div>3.72 8.59</div> </div>	No proceedings taken.
2.89	8.79	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>2.93 8.80</div> <div>Evening Milk.</div> <div>3.51 8.85</div> </div>	No proceedings taken.
3.42	8.34	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>3.36 8.50</div> <div>Evening Milk.</div> <div>3.30 8.48</div> </div>	No proceedings taken.
3.25	8.25	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>3.68 8.38</div> <div>Evening Milk.</div> <div>3.25 8.23</div> </div>	No proceedings taken.
2.70	8.84	.....	3.90 9.00	Penalty, £2.
2.65	8.56	.....	<div> <div>Morning milk.</div> <div>3.40 8.77</div> <div>Evening Milk.</div> <div>3.06 8.83</div> </div>	Penalty, £5.

The following table gives information as to the number and nature of the official samples of sweet milk analysed :—

YEAR.	RETAIL SAMPLES FROM SHOPS.			RETAIL SAMPLES FROM CARTS.			WHOLESALE SAMPLES IN COURSE OF DELIVERY.			SAMPLES TAKEN ON DELIVERY AT INSTITUTIONS.		
	Samples taken.	Found adulterated.	Per-centage adulterated.	Samples taken.	Found adulterated.	Per-centage adulterated.	Samples taken.	Found adulterated.	Per-centage adulterated.	Samples taken.	Found adulterated.	Per-centage adulterated.
1914, . .	50	8	16·0	35	7	20·0	24	8	33·3	14	1	7·1
1915, . .	82	14	17·1	64	4	6·2	38	11	29·0	23	3	13·0
1916, . .	118	19	16·1	82	9	11·0	47	16	34·0	19	1	5·3
1917, . .	83	11	13·3	54	6	11·1	92	34	37·0	23	0	0·0
1918, . .	123	8	6·5	66	7	10·6	49	4	8·2	2	0	0·0
1919, . .	101	14	13·8	36	2	5·5	123	15	12·2	2	0	0·0
1920, . .	129	6	4·7	32	2	6·3	111	5	4·5	0	0	0·0
1921, . .	166	10	6·0	87	3	3·4	176	14	8·0	2	0	0·0

In view of the fact that one of the points to which the special attention of the Inter-Departmental Committee appointed by the Scottish Board of Health was directed was the “Presumptive or legal standard for milk,” it is of interest to observe that the average quantities of fat or solids other than fat in all the samples analysed was as follows :—

Year.	Number of Samples.	Fat.	Solids other than Fat.
1919	262	3·38	8·95
1920	272	3·48	8·96
1921	429	3·50	8·89

No similar information is available for the earlier years.

In calculating the averages for the year 1921 no account has been taken of two abnormal samples which contained respectively 17·24 per cent. fat and 7·76 per cent. solids other than fat, and ~~8·23~~_{8·69} per cent. fat and ~~8·69~~_{8·23} per cent. other solids.

The sample containing 17·24 per cent. fat and 7·76 per cent. solids other than fat was purchased from a party who used to keep cows but who now purchases milk and retails it in the milkhouse attached to the dairy premises. The circumstances were as follows :—Shortly after 8 a.m. a schoolboy, who was employed by me, called at the milkhouse and asked to be supplied with a pint of milk. He was told that the milk had not yet arrived, but that if he cared to wait he would be supplied when it did arrive. During the interval of waiting the retailer came

to the street, evidently for the purpose of seeing whether the farmer was in sight, and my assistants are of opinion that they were recognised by the retailer. The quantity of milk delivered was six gallons, and part of this milk, immediately after arrival, was poured into a pail containing about three gallons, and the boy was supplied with a pint out of this pail. A sample taken in course of delivery by the producer was found to contain 3·89 per cent. fat and 9·11 per cent. other solids. On receiving the Analyst's certificate I asked the retailer to call upon me, which she did, but she could not give any explanation neither did she claim that a mistake had been made.

I consulted the Procurator-Fiscal, and, in the absence of any explanation, we were of opinion that proceedings should be taken. When the case was called in Court accused's agent asked that the third part of the sample should be sent to the Government laboratory. This was done, and a certificate received in the following terms:—

“ Non-fatty solids	7·68	} = 7·88 per cent.
Loss of non-fatty solids through keeping	0·20	
Fat		17·74 do.
Ash		0·67 do.

“From a consideration of these results, and having regard to the ‘Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901’, we are of opinion that these results indicate a deficiency in non-fatty milk solids if the sample be regarded as a normal milk.

“The sample contains, however, an abnormally high amount of fat. After making allowance for the excess of fat present in the sample, we are of opinion that the sample in question does not afford evidence of the abstraction of non-fatty milk solids or of the addition of water.”

After receiving the above certificate the charge was withdrawn.

The sample containing ~~8·25~~^{8·69} per cent. fat and ~~8·69~~^{8·23} per cent. solids other than fat was also purchased from a retailer. In a letter accompanying his certificate the Public Analyst stated that “the sample contains an abnormally high percentage of fat, and, after making allowance for the excess of fat present in the sample, I am of opinion that the sample does not afford evidence of the abstraction of non-fatty milk solids or of the addition of water.”

I accordingly wrote to the retailer as follows:—“ . . . The quantity of fat contained in the sample is abnormally high, and, taking into consideration the fact that the sample was supplied out of a can which contained four gallons, would indicate that the milk had been insufficiently mixed before being retailed. The result would be that some of your customers would get an extraordinarily rich milk while others would get an article corresponding to skimmed milk. I do not intend to report this contravention to the Procurator-Fiscal, but must impress upon you the necessity of seeing that your milk is properly mixed or stirred before being sold.” Another sample of milk was purchased from this retailer on 27th September, and certified to contain 3·02 per cent. fat and 8·82 per cent. solids not fat.

UNOFFICIAL SAMPLES OF SWEET MILK.

The following table gives the number of unofficial samples which were examined for fat by means of the Gerber apparatus in the Public Health Department:—

Year.	No. of Samples.	No. Deficient in Fat.
1917 . . .	933	185
1918 . . .	166	21
1919 . . .	93	18
1920 . . .	36	5
1921 . . .	145	20

In 1917, on account of the percentage of deficient samples being so high, special arrangements were made for examining consignments on their arrival at the dairy premises. In a great many cases the samples were only slightly under the standard, and all suspicious milks were kept under close observation either till they were beyond suspicion or until official samples were taken.

Within recent years, a change has been effected in the method of sending milk to the City. Formerly the milk was either sent by rail or delivered by the farmers' carts. Nowadays all the principal dairymen possess motor or steam lorries and collect their own milk. The result is that, as the milk is taken delivery of outside the City, I am unable to take official samples. From time to time, however, unofficial samples are taken from the consignments in these lorries after they arrive in the City, and if any of the samples are found to be deficient a communication is sent to the Authority of the district from which the milk was consigned. Following upon these communications, official samples are taken by the County Authorities.

Skimmed Milk.—In 1916 it was found that out of 58 samples of skimmed milk 11, or 19 per cent., were under the standard. Since 1917 comparatively little skimmed milk has been sold in the City.

The following table gives particulars regarding the samples taken:—

Year.	No of Samples.	No. under Standard.	Percentage under Standard.
1914 . . .	7	0	0·0
1915 . . .	25	0	0·0
1916 . . .	58	11	19·0
1917 . . .	50	2	4·0
1918 . . .	18	1	5·6
1919 . . .	17	2	11·8
1920 . . .	24	1	4·2
1921 . . .	34	0	0·0
Totals . . .	233	17	7·3

It will be observed that since 1916 143 samples have been procured, and the percentage found deficient was 4·2.

Cream.—The one sample of cream analysed was found to contain not more than 1·16 per cent. fat. It was stated in court that the “cream” had been tampered with by a message boy.

Butter.—Of the 176 “formal” samples of butter, 27, or 15·3 per cent., were found deficient. Of the deficient samples, only four contained foreign fat.

Margarine.—Of the 210 “formal” samples of margarine procured, 8, or 3·8 per cent., were found deficient. In six cases proceedings were instituted against the manufacturers for issuing false warranties, and in two cases penalties were imposed. In the remaining four cases—all against the same firm—the Court held that the charge was “not proven,” as the accused proved that when the warranties were given they had reason to believe that the statements contained therein were true.

In 81 cases it was found that the requirements of the Acts as regards labelling and marking were not being strictly complied with, and a circular letter, containing excerpts from the Acts, was sent to all offenders. In July, 1921, proceedings were instituted against a grocer, who had some time previously received the circular referred to, for supplying margarine in a plain wrapper. He pled guilty, and was fined 10s.

Coffee.—Of the 61 “formal” samples of coffee purchased, four contained chicory. In three of the cases the seller was protected by a label stating that the article was “a mixture of coffee and chicory.”

Spirits.—Of whisky, 31 samples were purchased, and one was found adulterated; while all the nine samples of rum purchased were found genuine.

Drugs.—Of the 72 samples of drugs analysed, all, with one exception, were found genuine. The sample referred to—olive oil—was found to contain 100 per cent. castor oil.

THE SALE OF FOOD ORDER, 1921.

Labelling of Imported Produce.—Circulars containing the requirements of the above Order were sent to all butchers, grocers, and others known to be dealing in imported meat.

Requirements as to Jam and Fats.—Samples of jam, margarine, dripping, and lard were procured in order to see that the requirements of the Order were complied with. All the samples were genuine.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

Sixty-four samples were procured under the above Act and duly analysed.

Thirty-eight of the samples were taken from upholsterers, 14 from bedding manufacturers, and 12 from rag flock manufacturers.

The results of the analyses were as follows:—

Year.	No. of Sample	Chlorine (of Chlorides) per 100,000 parts of Flock.	Remarks.
1916	1	20	.....
	2	16	.....
	3	15	.....
	4	5	.....
	5	5	.....
	6	10	.....
	7	24	.....
	8	3	.....
	9	5	.....
	10	8	.....
	11	6	.....
	12	14	.....
	13	10	.....
1917	14	16	.....
	15	215	Pled guilty, and fined £3.
	16	20	.....
	17	23	.....
	18	23	.....
	19	45	Pled not guilty, but convicted and fined £3.
	20	10	.....
	21	22	.....
	22	280	Accused stated that flock was not being used in ordinary course of business, so bail of £1 was accepted.
	23	25	.....
	24	15	.....
1919	25	23	.....
	26	10	.....
	27	6	.....
	28	21	.....
	29	12	.....
	30	9	.....
	31	6	.....
	32	44	Article stated not to be "rag flock," so no proceedings were taken.
	33	13	.....
	34	12	.....
	35	13	.....
	36	15	.....
	37	12	.....

Year.	No. of Sample.	Chlorine (of Chlorides) per 100,000 parts of Flock.		Remarks.
1920	38	...	22	.....
	39	...	92	Pled guilty, and fined 10s.
	40	...	30	.....
	41	...	16	.....
	42	...	24	.....
	43	...	30	.....
	44	...	30	.....
	45	...	30	.....
	46	...	24	.....
	47	...	26	.....
	48	...	52	Pled guilty, and fined 10s.
1921	49	...	30	.....
	50	...	24	.....
	51	...	18	.....
	52	...	30	.....
	53	...	72	Fined 21s.
	54	...	20	.....
	55	...	22	.....
	56	...	16	.....
	57	...	24	.....
	58	...	26	.....
	59	...	28	.....
	60	...	56	Forfeited bail of £2.
	61	...	22	.....
	62	...	26	.....
	63	...	30	.....
	64	...	20	.....

Of the eight samples which did not comply with the standard prescribed in the Regulations issued by the Local Government Board, viz., 30 parts of chlorine per 100,000 parts of flock, four were supplied by upholsterers, three by bedding manufacturers, and one by a rag flock manufacturer.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT, 1908.

No fresh applications were received for permission to sell poisonous substances to be used exclusively in agriculture or horticulture, and during the period under review two licensees have given up business.

Applications for the renewal of existing licences were made and granted annually. The premises were visited from time to time, and the arrangements for keeping poisonous substances found to be satisfactory.

Licences were also granted annually to persons in the employment of these applicants.

SHOPS ACT, 1912, AND THE SHOPS (EARLY CLOSING) ACTS, 1920 AND 1921.

The provisions of these Acts, and the Half-Holiday Orders and Closing Orders made under the principal Act, have been regularly enforced.

The total number of inspections made annually were as follows:--

1916	6,102	1919	6,088
1917	4,741	1920	4,628
1918	4,145	1921	11,294

Half-Holiday Orders.

No additional Order was made during the period under review, neither was any alteration made in any of the existing Orders.

Closing Orders under Section 5 (for fixing the Closing Hour for the several days of the week).

Prior to 1916 there were only three Closing Orders in force, namely, those for butchers; hairdressers; and drapers, clothiers, and outfitters. Three additional Orders have been made since that time, namely, those for chemists, boot and shoe dealers, and ironmongers.

In May, 1919, the hairdressers obtained a new Order, under which all shops have to be closed on every day of the week at 8 p.m. In the previous Order shops did not require to close on Saturdays till 10 p.m. In October, 1919, the drapers, clothiers, and outfitters also obtained a new Order, under which all shops have to be closed at 7 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, and at 8 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday. In the previous Order the closing hours were 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9 p.m. on Thursday, and 10 p.m. on Saturday.

There has within recent years been an obvious desire on the part of the majority of shopkeepers for earlier closing hours. There were no prosecutions for any contravention of the Orders, but several shopkeepers were warned for not closing their shops promptly at the prescribed closing hour.

In August, 1920, a firm of travelling clothiers were fined £4 for failing to close their premises at 1 p.m. on one day of the week, and for failing on three evenings of the week to close at the hours prescribed by the Clothiers Closing Order.

Section 1 (1) and (2)—Shop Assistants' Half-Holiday.

The provisions of the Act so far as they affect the half-holiday for assistants are well observed. In only three cases was it necessary to institute legal proceedings. Convictions were obtained in each case, the penalties, including expenses, ranging from 20s. 6d. to 28s.

Warnings were given in every case where it was found that the assistants' half-holiday notice was either wanting or was not properly filled up.

Section 1 (3)—Intervals for Meals.

In no case was it necessary to take legal proceedings under this Section. In all cases where it was found that the provisions of the First Schedule of the Act as regards the intervals for dinner and tea were not being strictly complied with the attention of the shopkeeper was directed thereto, and the necessary alterations were made.

In a few cases it was found that assistants were being employed for more than six hours without an interval of at least 20 minutes being allowed during the course thereof, and on subsequent inspection it was found that the error had been rectified.

Section 2 (1) and (3)—Hours of Employment of Young Persons under 18 Years of Age.

No contravention of this Section—which requires that young persons under 18 years of age must not be employed more than 74 hours, including meal times, in one week—were discovered. Warnings were given in all cases where the prescribed notice was not exhibited, and the notices were duly procured.

Section 3—Seats for Female Shop Assistants.

No contravention of this Section—which requires that in all rooms of a shop where female assistants are employed in the serving of customers the occupier of the shop shall provide seats behind the counter in the proportion of not less than one seat to every three female shop assistants—was discovered.

Section 4 (1) and (3)—Half-Holiday Closing of Shops.

Several complaints were received regarding the occupiers of “mixed” shops selling non-exempted articles on the afternoon of the half-holiday, and in seven cases it was found necessary to institute legal proceedings. Convictions were obtained in each case—the penalties, including expenses, ranging from 10s. to 25s. 6d.

In July, 1920, a grocer failed to close his shop on the afternoon of the grocers’ weekly half-holiday, and was fined 17s. of expenses.

Section 9—Provision as to Trading elsewhere than in Shops.

Letters of warning were sent to fish hawkers regarding the hawking of fish on the afternoon of the weekly half-holiday, and in two cases prosecutions followed. Penalties of 20s 6d. and 25s. 6d. were imposed.

Section 10 (1)—Conditions under which “Mixed” Shops Can Remain Open on the Afternoon of Weekly Half-Holiday.

In all cases where it was found that the notices required under this Section were not being exhibited the attention of the shopkeeper was directed thereto and notices were duly procured.

Shops (Early Closing) Act, 1920, as Amended by the Act of 1921.

By these Acts the Order made in 1917 under the Defence of the Realm Regulations is continued in force, and has effect in the area of any Local Authority as if it were a Closing Order made and confirmed under the Shops Act, 1912.

Numerous complaints have been received from shopkeepers regarding their neighbours or competitors selling non-exempted articles after the closing hours prescribed in the Act. In no fewer than 29 cases during 1921 proceedings were instituted, and convictions were obtained in 28 cases—the penalties, including expenses, ranging from 10s. to £4 11s. 6d. (a sixth offence).

In the remaining case the accused was found “not guilty.” The circumstances were briefly as follows:—It was reported to me that an auctioneer was conducting sales in a hall rented by him, that he was not closing the door of the hall at the prescribed closing hour, and that he was selling as long as he could get customers to buy. I accordingly wrote the auctioneer informing him that, in the opinion of the Procurator-Fiscal and myself, such action was not permissible, and that if persisted in I would have no alternative but to institute proceedings against him.

Acting on my instructions, two of my assistants visited the saleroom on the same evening and found that the door was locked at 8 p.m. and no persons allowed to enter thereafter, but that goods continued to be offered for sale and were sold to those persons who were in the hall before the closing hour. The case for the defence was that as “retail trade or business” was defined in the interpretation clause of the Act as including retail sales by auction, and that as under Section 5 of the Act a person is not liable to any penalty for serving after the closing hour any customer who was in the shop before the closing hour, no offence had been committed. The Sheriff, in finding the accused “not guilty,” said that the auctioneer was entitled to finish the sale, and the circumstances were such as to bring him completely under exemption provided by Section 5.

There is no doubt that prior to this case certain auctioneers were allowing persons to enter their salerooms after the prescribed closing hour. In fairness to other shopkeepers it was considered necessary to take this case into Court, because if the auctioneers in the City had made a practice of continuing to sell as long as they wished after the closing hour ordinary shopkeepers would have had a distinct grievance.

In bringing the case to the notice of the Secretary for Scotland, I was informed that he “concurs generally with the view that it was not contemplated that the proviso to Section 5 of the Shops Act, 1912, should operate to allow the continuance of auction sales after the closing hour, as in the case to which you refer.”

I was further informed that the point raised would be borne in mind in connection with any amending legislation.

The question “What is a Fair?” was raised in connection with another case. During December and January last a carnival, organised by a travelling showman, was held on ground rented for the purpose. The lessee sublet stances to various

parties who erected stalls thereon and sold various articles, principally confectionery. Complaints were made to me by shopkeepers that these stallholders were selling goods long after the prescribed closing hours. I accordingly sent a letter to all such stallholders informing them that, in the opinion of the Procurator-Fiscal and myself, the carnival was not a "lawfully held fair" within the meaning of the Shops Act, and that, in our opinion, all stallholders selling goods must cease serving customers at the hours mentioned in the Act. All the stallholders, with one exception, immediately complied with this warning. This party, who was a member of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain and Ireland, communicated with the Secretary of that organisation, and was informed that they would defend the case. The Sheriff, in giving judgment, said "The question raised here seemed important both to what one might call a branch of the entertainment profession and to the public and the ratepayers of the towns and villages where these entertainments were in the habit of being held. He did not think there was any great question of difficulty to be decided. It arose on what was meant by the expression 'any fair lawfully held'. Had the word 'lawfully' not been used, there might have been a difficult question as to what was a 'fair'. It was perfectly true that this particular offence was committed at a holiday time, but there was no evidence to show how this became sanctioned as a 'fair'. He found the respondent guilty of the charge. The agent for the respondent suggested that, as this was the first occasion on which the question had been raised in Scotland, a nominal fine should be imposed. The Sheriff said that, in respect of this being the first offence, he would impose no penalty, but respondent would have to pay the expenses, amounting to 25s.

The Act should have ceased to become operative on 31st December, 1921, but by the Expiring Laws Continuance Acts, 1921 and 1922, it has been continued until 31st December this year. There is no doubt that considerable vexation and irritation exists among certain shopkeepers and members of the public regarding the restrictions that are still being kept in force as to trading. It might be desirable for the legislature to consider whether the time has not now come when these restrictions, which were introduced as a war measure, should be relaxed or abolished.

EXTERMINATION OF RATS.

In 1917, as the result of a Conference between the representatives of a number of owners of large warehouses in the City and a Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee, a Minute of Agreement was drawn up under which, *inter alia*, the Town Council undertook to appoint a ratcatcher who shall be attached to the Public Health Department and devote his whole time to the duties of his appointment. The expenditure incurred under the scheme, after deduction of payments made for services rendered to ratepayers who are non-contributors, is met as to one-half by the Town Council and as to the other half by the contributors.

The original contributors numbered 39, and the number at the end of 1921 was 58. The first ratcatcher appointed commenced duty in August, 1917, and the work

increased to such an extent that in December, 1918, it was found necessary to appoint an additional ratcatcher. Two ratcatchers have been in the continuous employment of the Department since that date.

In the case of persons or firms who are not contributors under the scheme, the Department makes a charge for each service of the rat destruction officers, the charge being at the rate of 2s. 6d. for the first hour of each visit or part of such hour, with a further charge, if the visit exceeds one hour, at the rate of 1s. 6d. per hour for the additional time occupied.

Since the Rats and Mice Destruction Act came into force on 1st January, 1920, notices have been served in connection with all premises known to be infested with rats and in connection with which sufficient steps were not being taken to exterminate the rats. In 1920 the number of such notices was 79, and in 1921, 176.

Under the Act the onus of exterminating rats and taking steps to prevent re-infestation of the premises is placed upon the occupier. In my opinion it would be a great advantage if power were given, as in the Public Health Act in connection with nuisances, to serve the notices on either the owner or the occupier. In tenemented properties it frequently happens that it is some part of the property used in common which is infested, and it is obviously difficult to get the tenants to take sufficient steps to exterminate the rats in such cases. Moreover, extensive repairs have frequently to be carried out in order to prevent re-infestation of the premises, and it is not reasonable to expect that the occupier should have to bear the cost of such repairs.

In such cases it has been our practice to call upon the owners to exterminate the rats and to take the necessary steps to prevent re-infestation, and so far we have had comparatively little difficulty in getting owners to comply with our demands. It would, however, be much more satisfactory if power were given to deal with the owner, as well as the occupier, in all cases where it was considered this procedure was necessary.

In every case efforts are made to discover the means whereby rats obtain access to the property, and notices are also served regarding the repairs which are required in order to prevent re-infestation. In the older properties, however, it is difficult, if not impossible, to render the premises rat-proof, and in some cases the only alternative is to keep on exterminating the rats.

Valuable aid is rendered by the Burgh Surveyor's Department in raising the pavements and closing up rat runs which exist thereunder.

With regard to the selection of poisons, a number of experiments were made in the Public Health Laboratory with various poisons known to be used for the killing of rats—such as arsenic, barium, carbonate, strychnine, phosphorus, red squill, &c. Experiments were also made with Liverpool or Danysz Virus.

As the result of our experience, we have now practically settled down to the almost steady use of arsenic and red squill. The latter is invariably used in all open places—such as burns, refuse tips, and also in such places as granaries, where the sweepings are customarily sold for poultry food.

During the period of drought experienced in 1921 we used with success a liquid arsenical poison. We found that in premises where water was scarce rats readily drank this mixture.

The bait most commonly used in conjunction with arsenic is composed of mashed boiled potatoes mixed with oatmeal, flour, and sugar. Occasionally fat also is added. The feed in other cases where a different kind of bait is desirable consists of boiled fish fried in fat, and mixed and stirred up with oatmeal until the mass becomes firm. In certain other cases raw fish alone is used, being simply minced. Raw beef is similarly used.

The ratcatchers periodically visit all open places, such as rubbish tips, railway embankments, burns, &c., which are known to be infested with rats.

Undernoted are particulars as to the number of poisoned baits laid since the introduction of the scheme for the destruction of rats:—

Year ending 31st July, 1918—

Number of poisoned baits laid,	. . . . .	46,290
„ „ taken away,	. . . . .	25,183
Dry poison feed (mice) laid,	. . . . .	1 lb. 12 oz.
„ „ taken away,	. . . . .	0 lb. 10 oz.

Year ending 31st July, 1919—

Number of poisoned baits laid,	. . . . .	45,802
„ „ taken away,	. . . . .	23,772
Dry poison feed (mice) laid,	. . . . .	1 lb. 4 oz.
„ „ taken away,	. . . . .	0 lb. 12 oz.

Year ending 31st July, 1920—

Number of poisoned baits laid,	. . . . .	76,746
„ „ taken away,	. . . . .	47,372
Dry poison feed (mice) laid,	. . . . .	6 lb. 2 oz.
„ „ taken away,	. . . . .	2 lb. 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ oz.

Year ending 31st July, 1921—

Number of poisoned baits laid,	. . . . .	64,728
„ „ taken away,	. . . . .	32,806
Dry poison feed (mice) laid,	. . . . .	5 lb. 1 oz.
„ „ taken away,	. . . . .	1 lb. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Liquid poison laid (3 months—May to July),	. . . . .	56 pints.
„ „ consumed ( „ „ ),	. . . . .	27 $\frac{3}{4}$ pints.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, CINEMAS, &c.

Following upon a circular letter from the Scottish Board of Health, dated 6th December, 1920, all the places of public entertainment in the City were periodically visited during 1921. The number of licensed places of amusement is 35, and the number of visits paid was 183.

Special attention was paid to the ventilation of these premises, and in seven cases additional ventilation was provided. Letters were sent to the proprietors or managers drawing their attention to the necessity of seeing that sufficient ventilation was maintained during the course of the entertainment. It was also suggested that the doors and ventilators should be kept open during the daytime or between the performances in order to allow of the premises being thoroughly flushed with fresh air.

Undernoted are particulars as to the work carried out at the instance of the Department:—

Number of inspections	183
Improved ventilation provided for halls	7
Improved ventilation provided for w.c. apartments	3
Sashcords for windows renewed	41
Cords for ventilators provided	8
Gratings for fresh-air inlets provided	2
Premises in which seats were cleaned	22
Floors of halls cleaned	7
Floor of dressing-room cleaned	1
Floors of passages cleaned	2
Walls of halls cleaned	6
Walls and ceilings of dressing-rooms cleaned	4
Walls and ceilings of staircases and passages cleaned	4
Walls and ceilings of w.c.'s cleaned	19
Walls and ceilings of urinals cleaned	3
Basins of w.c.'s cleaned	14
Urinal stalls cleaned	16
Basins of w.c.'s renewed	2
Seats of w.c.'s renewed	2
Floor of cloakroom repaired	1
Floor of passage repaired	1
Plaster on walls and ceilings repaired	7
Choked drains or pipes cleared	2
Accumulations of rubbish removed	2

PORT SANITARY INSPECTION.

In accordance with the scheme of Port Sanitary Administration prepared by the Local Authority and subsequently approved by the Scottish Board of Health, arrangements were made in the latter part of 1921 for the inspection of all ships coming into the port. Of the 115 vessels examined, 86 were found satisfactory, and in the remaining 29 cases various insanitary conditions were found which were immediately brought to the notice of the master. These nuisances consisted chiefly of dirty floors and lockers and foul w.c.'s.

Special inquiry is made at every vessel inspected regarding rat infestation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Undernoted are particulars regarding the work done in connection with the above :—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Visits of Inquiry,	9,492	13,524	9,408	9,570	13,137	11,943
Patients removed to Hospital, . . .	2,032	1,490	1,382	1,391	1,677	1,978
Patients supervised at Home,	1,259	2,963	2,002	1,543	2,561	1,941
Patients removed to House of Reception,	44	82	228	256	146	70
Notices served under Section 50 (2), . . .	1,749	2,903	2,023	1,883	2,578	2,660
Notices served under Section 53 (2), . . .	1,749	2,903	2,023	1,883	2,578	2,660
Intimations to School Teachers,	3,473	8,670	3,172	2,823	4,341	4,147
Houses and Premises disinfected,	2,749	3,548	2,728	2,151	3,139	2,847
Sets of Bedding and Clothing disinfected or destroyed,	2,990	3,959	3,161	2,676	3,615	3,397
Number of Chaff Beds destroyed,	743	1,095	750	650	450	505

INTERMENTS.

Under Section 69 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, it is the duty of the Local Authority to bury any unclaimed bodies or the bodies of persons whose relatives were unable to do so.

Undernoted are particulars as to the interments carried out by the Department :—

	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Under 1 year,	7	8	8	14	5	6	15
Between 1 and 12 years,	6	2	0	1	0	1	2
12 years and upwards,	22	18	16	11	0	6	7
Cost of Interments,	£61 17 0	£53 18 0	£50 16 0	£53 19 0	£10 2 6	£34 17 0	£69 12 6
Amount recovered,	5 12 6	4 0 6	9 6 0	12 14 2	1 11 0	11 12 6	21 8 9

PROSECUTIONS.

Undernoted are particulars of the prosecutions instituted during the years under review :—

1916.

Act or Order, &c.	Nature of Offence.	No. of Cases.	No. Successful.	Amount of Fines.
Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Thirty-three tenants failing to keep w.c.'s clean,	4	4	£3 0 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1867,	Nine tenants failing to keep lobby and stairs clean,	1	1	0 9 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1862,	Permitting a choked drain to continue,	1	1	0 10 6
Dairy Regulations, . . .	Failing to keep milkshop in a cleanly condition,	1	Case with-drawn	Accused undertook to cease selling milk.
Slaughter-house Bye-laws,	Failing to keep slaughtering implements in a clean condition,	2	2	£4 0 0
Shops Act, 1912, and Local Orders,	Selling non-exempted articles on weekly half-holiday,	5	5	4 17 0.
Shops Act, 1912, . . .	Failing to give assistants weekly half-holiday.	2	2	2 8 6
Food and Drugs Acts, . .	Selling articles not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded,	56	56	174 0 6
Food and Drugs Acts, . .	Issuing false warranties, . . .	2	2	12 12 0
Food and Drugs Acts, . .	Refusing to sell milk, . . .	1	1	5 0 0

1917.

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Failing to remove rubbish from house recently vacated,	2	2	£2 6 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1867,	Three tenants failing to keep lobby and stairs clean,	1	1	0 5 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1862,	Permitting a choked drain to continue,	1	1	0 10 6
Slaughter-house Bye-laws.	Stripping lining membrane of diseased carcase,	1	1	2 0 0
Shops Act, 1912, and Local Order,	Selling non-exempted articles on weekly half-holiday,	1	1	1 0 6
Rag Flock Act, 1911, . .	Supplying rag flock which did not conform with standard,	3	3	7 0 0
Food and Drugs Acts, . .	Selling articles not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded,	44	42	242 1 0
Food and Drugs Acts, . .	Dairy carter abstracting fat from milk,	1	1	10 0 0
Food and Drugs Acts, . .	Dairy carter obstructing sampling officer,	1	1	3 0 0
Cake and Pastry Order, 1917,	Manufacturing composite cakes, .	1	1	2 0 0
Cake and Pastry Order, 1917,	Manufacturing "light" or "fancy" pastry,	1	0	Found not guilty.
Meat Sales Order, 1917, .	Buying or selling fat cattle without giving the undertaking required by the Order,	3	3	£9 0 0

1918.

Act or Order &c.	Nature of Offence.	No. of Cases.	No. Success- ful.	Amount of Fines.
Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Eight tenants failing to keep w.c. clean,	1	1	All admo- nished.
Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Exposing for sale a diseased carcase,	1	1	£5 18 6
Slaughter-house Bye-laws,	Failing to keep implements and floors of booths in a clean con- dition,	2	2	2 0 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1862,	Permitting a choked drain to con- tinue,	1	1	2 0 0
Food and Drugs Acts, .	Selling articles not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded,	12	10	38 0 0
Food and Drugs Acts, .	Supplying margarine in a plain wrapper,	1	1	Admonished.

1919.

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Twenty-one tenants failing to keep w.c.'s clean,	3	3	£0 17 6
Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Improperly using w.c., . . .	1	1	0 10 6
Shops Act, 1912, . . .	Failing to give assistant weekly half-holiday,	1	1	1 0 6
Shops Act, 1912, and Local Order,	Selling non-exempted articles on weekly half-holiday,	1	1	1 0 6
Rag Flock Act, 1911, .	Supplying rag flock which did not conform with standard,	1	Case with- drawn	...
Bye-laws for houses let in lodgings,	Failing to give free access to house,	1	1	1 1 0
Food and Drugs Acts, .	Supplying articles not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded,	27	22	48 12 0
Food and Drugs Acts, .	Issuing a false warranty, . . .	4	0	...

1920.

Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Fifteen tenants failing to keep w.c.'s in a clean condition,	2	2	£2 5 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1867,	Five tenants failing to keep back court in a cleanly condition,	1	1	0 12 6
Aberdeen Police Act, 1867,	Keeping pigs in unlicensed pre- mises,	2	2	2 0 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1862,	Permitting choked drains to con- tinue,	2	2	0 10 0
Shops Act, 1912, and Local Orders,	Failing to close shops at hours pre- scribed in Orders,	3	3	4 17 0
Slaughter-house Bye-laws,	Removing diseased carcasses without written consent,	2	2	8 0 0
Slaughter-house Bye-laws,	Failing to send return of number of animals slaughtered,	1	1	1 0 0
Rag Flock Act, 1911, .	Supplying rag flock which did not conform with standard,	2	2	1 0 0
Food and Drugs Acts, .	Selling articles not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded,	8	8	28 13 0

1921.

Act or Order, &c.	Nature of Offence.	No. of Cases.	No. Success- ful.	Amount of Fines.
Aberdeen Police Act, 1867,	Nine tenants failing to keep common stairs clean,	2	2	£0 15 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1867,	Failing to whitewash lobbies and staircases,	1	1	2 0 0
Aberdeen Police Act, 1867,	Keeping pigs in unlicensed pre- mises,	1	1	Admonished.
Aberdeen Police Act, 1862,	Permitting choked drains to con- tinue,	4	4	£2 0 0
Bye-laws for houses let in lodgings,	Permitting lodgers to be accommo- dated in two unregistered rooms and permitting a third room to be overcrowded,	1	1	6 0 0
Bye-laws as to places of public refreshment,	Permitting internal communication with living rooms,	1	1	1 0 0
Slaughter-house Bye-laws,	Failing to intimate appearance of disease in a carcase and removing carcase without written consent.	1	1	2 0 0
Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Exposing for sale gooseberries which were unfit for food,	1	1	0 10 0
Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897,	Exposing for sale carcase of cow which was unfit for food,	1	1	10 0 0
Rag Flock Act, 1911,	Supplying rag flock which did not conform with standard,	2	2	3 0 0
Shops Act, 1912, and Local Orders,	Selling non-exempted articles on weekly half-holiday,	3	3	2 16 0
Shops (Early Closing) Acts, 1920 and 1921,	Serving customers after the closing hours,	31	30	43 6 6
Food and Drugs Acts,	Selling articles not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded,	18	17	67 10 0
Food and Drugs Acts,	Selling margarine in a plain wrapper,	1	1	0 10 0

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CUMMING,

Sanitary Inspector.

STATEMENT of Proceedings under the Public Health and other Acts during the
Years 1916-1921.

1.—NUISANCES.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Complaints received,	907	915	1,105	1,253	1,567	2,900
Nuisances abated,	10,180	9,985	10,167	8,829	12,041	13,273
Intimations served under Section 19,	4,474	3,945	5,224	3,539	5,971	5,812
Notices served under Section 20,	178	34	52	93	89	284
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	6	4	1	4	5	6
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	6	4	1	4	5	6
Notices served under Local Acts,	11,592	10,505	11,689	10,576	12,817	11,236
Number of Houses, Premises, &c., inspected,	29,368	35,085	32,440	34,847	29,874	34,770
Number of Testings with Smoke Test,	132	57	447	117	133	134

2.—FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Inspections,	1,464	1,944	1,660	2,101	2,295	2,331
Notices served under Factory and Workshops Act,	170	57	54	25	40	18
Complaints removed,	120	61	47	49	24	14
Notices served under the Public Health Act,	40	187	140	381	338	284
Complaints removed,	30	58	122	173	249	219
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	0	0	0	0	0	0

3.—BAKEHOUSES.

Inspections,	220	241	277	526	343	438
Notices served,	147	142	50	346	172	328
Complaints removed,	73	89	44	202	239	304

4.—UNDERGROUND DWELLINGS.

Number reported to Local Authority,	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notices to Owners (Section 74),	0	0	0	0	0	0

5.—COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

Number on Register,	5	5	5	5	4	2
Number Registered during year,	0	0	0	0	1	0
Renewals of Registration,	5	5	5	5	3	2
Removed from Register,	1	0	0	0	2	2
Inspections during day,	184	203	182	180	120	48
Inspections during night,	43	52	38	32	38	28
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken (Breaches of Bye-laws, &c.,	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	0	0	0	0	0	0

6.—HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Number on Register,	27	28	29	29	32	34
Inspections during day,	195	294	326	305	381	509
Inspections during night,	57	128	135	127	129	157
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0	0	0	1	0	1
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	0	0	0	1	0	1

7.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Visits of Inquiry, &c.,	9,492	13,524	9,408	9,570	13,137	11,943
Patients removed to Hospital,	2,032	1,490	1,382	1,391	1,677	1,978
Patients supervised at Home,	1,259	2,963	2,002	1,543	2,561	1,941
Patients removed to House of Reception,	44	82	228	256	146	70
Notices served under Section 50 (2),	1,749	2,903	2,023	1,883	2,578	2,660
Notices served under Section 53 (2),	1,749	2,903	2,023	1,883	2,578	2,660
Intimations to School Teachers,	3,473	8,670	3,172	2,823	4,341	4,147
Houses and Premises disinfected,	2,749	3,548	2,728	2,151	3,139	2,847
Sets of Clothing and Bedding disinfected or destroyed,	2,990	3,959	3,161	2,676	3,615	3,397
Number of Chaff Beds destroyed,	743	1,095	750	650	450	505
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	0	0	0	0	0	0

8.—DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

Number on Register,	456	453	440	468	498	556
Registered during the year,	63	91	24	56	75	123
Removed from Register,	83	93	38	21	39	62
Inspections,	2,048	1,961	4,110	3,520	3,012	2,133
Number of Cows in Cowsheds (Byres),	296	273	288	287	247	215
Contraventions of Orders or Regulations dealt with,	32	27	24	31	35	31
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	Case with- drawn	0	0	0	0	0

9.—HEALTH VISITORS WORK (FEMALE INSPECTORS).

Sanitary Defects and Nuisances intimated to Sanitary
Inspector, and dealt with above:—

(1) Overcrowding,	19	29	23	5	14	23
(2) Dirty Houses,	22	37	15	5	12	31
(3) Defective and Choked Sinks, Closets and Drains,	91	81	76	55	103	82
(4) Unhung Windows,	47	41	10	12	24	25
(5) Dampness,	28	29	8	4	24	36
(6) Other Defects,	168	166	109	97	301	237

10.—FOOD AND DRUGS.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Samples procured for Analysis,	471	421	374	426	493	602
Certified Pure by Analyst,	399	357	348	390	475	570
Certified to be Adulterated,	72	64	26	36	18	32
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	59	46	13	31	8	19
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	59	44	11	22	8	18

11.—RAG FLOCK ACT.

Samples procured for Analysis,	13	12	0	12	11	16
Certified to conform with Regulations,	13	9	0	11	9	14
Certified not to conform with Regulations,	0	3	0	1	2	2
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	0	2	0	0	2	2
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	0	2	0	0	2	2

12.—PIGSTYES.

Inspections in carrying out Bye-Laws relating to Pigstyes,	191	156	172	92	592	567
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13.—SHOPS ACT, 1912.

Total Number of Inspections,	6,102	4,741	4,145	6,088	4,628	11,294
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were taken,	7	1	0	2	3	34
Cases in which Legal Proceedings were successful,	7	1	0	2	3	33

14.—OTHER LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Number,	2	6	3	1	5	5
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